Additional information to support nomination of Hackett Oval trees for inclusion on the ACT Tree Register

By
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This information would not have been possible without the assistance of the following people and organisations:

- Jane Goffman who mentioned the existence of an early plan of Canberra showing a proposed cemetery site in the vicinity of the Hackett oval trees;
- Tony Maple who provided a composite map of the location of the cemetery with a more recent map of the Hackett area;
- Gareth Hollow at ACT Archives who provided advice and assistance in accessing files;
- staff at the National Archives of Australia in accessing files;
- the National Library of Australia, Trove portal.

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Summary of findings

In the late 1920s, the agencies and departments responsible for the development of early Canberra, considered the need for future cemeteries for the city. This task fell mainly with the Federal Capital Commission who took advice from its Development Committee (FCDC).

A search of records held by ACT Archives and the National Archives of Australia revealed that in 1928, this committee decided that the city would be best served by having one cemetery on the south side of the city and one on the north side. The site for a north side "cemetery reserve" was on the lower slopes of Mount Majura, to the north-east of a future expanded suburb of Ainslie. It would cover approximately 24 ha (60 acres) in an area now covered by the south-east part of Hackett. The FCDC also recommended the establishment of a "plantation screen fronting the City development for a width of some chains." A review of maps on the National Library of Australian Trove, identified several maps indicating the location of this proposed cemetery and reference to a plantation on the western side of the site.

Due to the Depression, in 1930, the Federal Capital Commission Development and its Committee was replaced by the ACT Advisory Council (ACTAC), which operated from 1930-74. Unfortunately, only one document in 1931 included a reference to the north cemetery (Appendix O). Files for this council for the period 1930-54 are not currently available at ACT Archives.

While no specific records could be found to confirm the actual date of establishment of the plantation, the recommendations by the FCDC in the late 1920s and 1931 suggest that the plantation was established in the 1930s. This date could be supported by aerial photos of the area taken in the 1950s which show the trees to be well established (photos previously supplied in the September 2020 submission to the ACT Register).

The evidence provided in this report should provide a very strong case to support the inclusion of these trees on the ACT Tree Register on the basis of their heritage value.

Background

In September 2020, the Hackett Community Association (HCA) submitted an application to have the Hackett Oval trees listed on the ACT Tree Register. At the time of the submission, the purpose and origin of these trees was unknown.

In April 2021, Chris Mobbs was in contact with Jane Goffman, Chair of the Dickson Residents Group. Jane subsequently mentioned that she had seen an early plan of Canberra which indicated that this area was considered as a future site for a cemetery. This suggestion led to this additional research being undertaken and compiled in this report.

This report is based on records from the following sources:

- Part A – files of meetings of the Federal Capital Commission Development Committee – ACT Archives
- Part B – file about Canberra cemetery site – National Archives of Australia
- Part C - National Library of Australia maps and plans on Trove
- Part D - Yarralumla Nursery cards

Part A - Records of meetings Federal Capital Commission Development Committee

The ACT Archives holds original records of meetings by the Federal Capital Commission Development Committee held between 01/09/1927 to 17/05/1929 (complete list of meetings at Appendix A). A review of these records show that this committee considered the need for additional cemetery sites (many of the existing churches had small cemeteries) to be developed on the south and north side of Canberra city, at meetings on the following occasions:

6 September 1927	Appendix B
2 November 1927	Appendix C
8 December 1927	Appendix D
24 January 1928	Appendix E
22 February 1928	Appendix F
21 April 1928	Appendix G
9 May 1928	Appendix H
24 April 1929	Appendix I

The advice of this committee was provided to the Federal Capital Commission. The critical records relating to the proposed north cemetery were the meetings on 6 September 1927 and 9 May 1928. Transcripts of these meetings are provided below for ease of reading. Photos of the records of the meetings are provided in Appendices B-I – *note - given the age of the records and that they were carbon copies, on very thin slightly brown coloured paper, the typing is very blurred on some. A sheet of white paper was placed under each sheet which did enhance the clarity of these records*.

Meeting No. 2 - 6 September 1927 page 9 (Appendix B)
Cemetery
"Following upon the interview, the Deputy Chairman, Acting Chief engineer, Lands Officer and Surveyor-in-Charge, Members of the Committee, visited a region on the western slopes of Ainslie-Majura Range. (Colonel Butler was invited to attend). The region presents advantages for the purposes of cemetery in the general slopes, seclusion, closer proximity to Canberra, and as far as could be seen, nature of the soil. (area indicated in accompany Plan No.1). (*Note – the plan referred to was not in the ACT Archives file for this meeting*)

The Committee thought that the next steps should be to make some trial borings, followed by sinking holes on the site.

At an interview with the Chief Commissioner, the Deputy Chairman was requested to select a site for cemetery to the south of the Molonglo in addition to the site referred to above.

The Surveyor-in-Charge reported that 8 bores had been put down to a depth of 6 ft – no rock was met and so far as could be forecasted soil generally suitable for burial purposes.

The Committee decided to make an inspection as soon as shafts were made."

Meeting No. 15 - 9 May 1928, pages 7&8 (Appendix H)

Cemetery Sites

"North and south sides – The Deputy Chairman referred to the point reached in these investigations. Following upon the Committee's final inspection of the proposed site on the North side on the 21st April – when its suitability was determined, subject to certain conditions – and then the inspection on the 1st May by the Director-General of Health (Dr. Cumpston) who expressed the opinion that the soil and subsoil were suitable and the site satisfactory, the time had arrived when the Committee's recommendation, for both the north and south sides of the River might be placed before the Commission.

The following draft for the purposes of forthwith conveying the Committee's views and recommendations to the Chief Commissioner, was approved: -

"In accordance with your directions two sites for cemeteries – one to the south of the Molonglo River, and one to the north – have been investigated with the following result:-

Southern Site: In September 1927, the Surveyor-in-Charge, recommended a site on Yarralumla Creek as suitable. The site was visited by the Director-General of Health, and concurred in as being suitable for burial purposes. Because however of its distance from the northern part of the City you requested –

(a) The selection of a site to the north of the River
(b) Further investigation to ascertain whether on the south closer to the city could be found.

Inspections were made and trial holes were sunk at a location near "Gifford's" Farm. The result was unsatisfactory, and bearing in mind requirement as to the nature of soil and topography generally, also City lay-out, the Committee has decided to recommend the adoption of the site (coloured 'red' and marked "A" on the accompanying plan) originally proposed by the Surveyor-in-Charge. [*note - no copy of this plan was on the ACT Archives files but was found in the NAA file Canberra Cemetery Site – Appendix P*]

The actual area has not been defined by survey, but it will afford roughly 80 acres gross. In the event of its approval, demarcation and road surveys could be put in hand.

Northern Site: The same considerations as to soil and topography were observed when inspecting this country to the northern side of the City. An additional factor has been closely studied, viz -ground water. The site which this Committee has decided to recommend is shown coloured 'red' and marked "B" on the attached City plan (*note - see plan at Appendix P*).

Trial holes were sunk and evidenced that the soil and decomposed rock in the subsoil would be suitable. The nature of the surrounding country also led to the conclusion that there would be no danger of ground water coming to the surface lower down. The site is outside the development on the city plan, but still reasonably close to the City. The actual distance would be dependent upon what road is eventually adopted as leading to the cemetery.

The Director General of Health was in Canberra on May 1st, and visited the site with the Deputy Chairman, Development Committee, Acting Chief engineer, Mr. Fletcher of the Health Department, and the Surveyor-in-Charge.

A small portion of the area is on the down-hill side of the proposed stormwater channel, and it was suggested that that portion not be used for burial for many years hence, when the behaviour of the stormwater drain, during heavy run-off will have been disclosed.

Dr. Cumpston concurred in the site. He thought that the soil and subsoil was suitable and that the area was a good one for a cemetery.

The area coloured 'red' is shown extending to the City layout, assuming that there would be a plantation screen fronting the City development for a width of some chains. Its area has not been defined by survey, but the gross area would be approximately 60 acres. If the site is approved of, demarcation, topographical and road surveys could be taken in hand."

Consideration of plantations

The FCDC also considered the establishment of additional windbreaks in the city area, but no reference is made to establishing a plantation at the proposed north side cemetery as was noted in meeting No. 15 - 9 May 1928. *See Appendix I*.

Part B - Canberra Cemetery Site file

The National Archives of Australia has a file, "*Canberra Cemetery Site* -citation NAA: A431, 1956/94, Item ID 459528," which contains records of the Federal Development Commission and correspondence from the Development Committee. Copies of relevant pages are at Appendices J-O. A summary of references to the proposed north side cemetery in these pages follows:

Extract from Minutes of 116th Meeting of the Federal Development Commission held at Canberra 14th and 16th May 1928 – Appendix J

"Cemetery

Resolution adopted 14th May 1928

A report submitted by the Deputy Chairman of the Development Committee on Cemetery sites was read by the Secretary, and two suggested sites – one on the North-West of Mt. Ainslie, and one the South-East portion of the city were considered.

It was decided to select and develop site "A" on the South-East side of the city and to reserve site "B" for the present, planting a suitable screen."

Memorandum for Acting Chief Engineer. – Appendix K

"With regard to Site "B", will you please let me have a scheme and estimate for a plantation to screen the Cemetery from the normal City development on the Northwest and Southwest Flanks, both above and below the stormwater drain.

Chief Commissioner.

15th May 1928"

Memorandum for the Accountant - Appendix M

"Memorandum for the Accountant

I attached herby requisition in the sum of £145 for the construction of 61 chains of enclosing netting fence to the proposed Ainslie Cemetery."

Department of Home Affairs, Federal Capital Territory Branch - 6-5-1931 – Appendix N

"With reference to your enquiry at the last Advisory Council Meeting, regarding cemetery sites, the following is a synopsis of the present position regarding new cemeteries and the proposals for establishment and control.

Two sites have been reserved for cemetery purposes near Canberra. The northern cemetery is located in the division of Ainslie at the north-eastern end of Majura Avenue. The other cemetery reserve is on the other side of the watershed of the Molonglo River, outside the City Area and to the south-west of Red Hill. It is considered therefore to be the most suitable site available with easy access of the City Area for a General Cemetery."

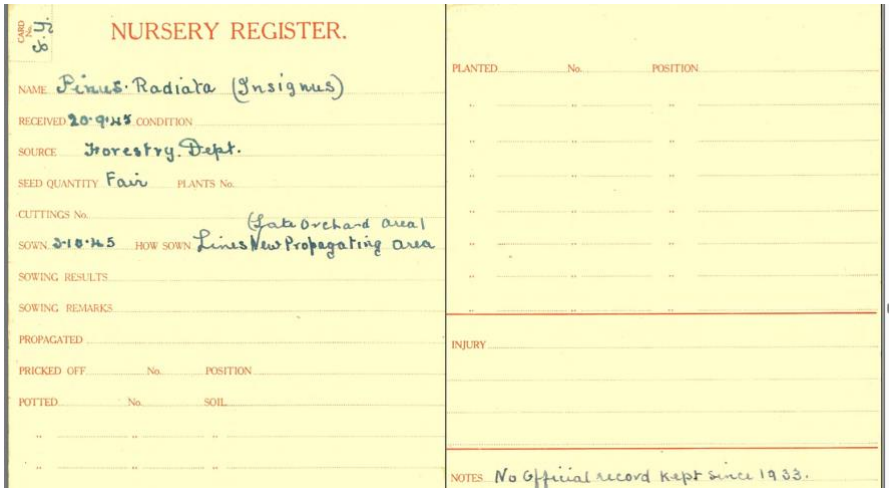
Part C - Early plans and maps of Canberra

A review of the National Library of Australia Trove records of early plans and maps of Canberra found several maps showing a 'cemetery reserve' and a plantation in an area that would be the south-east corner of Hackett (*Appendices Q-U*). Tony Maple kindly overlaid a recent map of north Canberra and this aligns very closely to the trees on the eastern side of the Hackett oval (*Appendix O*). The map also showed that the cemetery reserve would have covered an area approximately bounded by Phillip Avenue, Madigan St , Grayson and Mackenzie St, an area of about 24 ha (60 acres).

Part D Yarralumla Nursery Records - ACT Archives

A search of these records for the species of trees planted in the Hackett oval avenue was done to find any references to this site. As shown by the following examples, the cards include the source of the seed, and if planted out, the date and location. There were a large number of cards for *Pinus insignia (radiata*) and a small number for *Eucalyptus biostata* but there were no records identifying the north cemetery site as a planting site.

https://www.archives.act.gov.au/featured/yarralumla-nursery-records/user_guide



NURSERY REGISTER.

NAME Pinus Radiata (Insignis)

RECEIVED 20·9·45 CONDITION

SOURCE Forestry Dept.

SEED QUANTITY Fair PLANTS No.

CUTTINGS No.

SOWN 2·10·45 HOW SOWN Lines New Propagating area (Gate Orchard area)

SOWING RESULTS

SOWING REMARKS

PROPAGATED

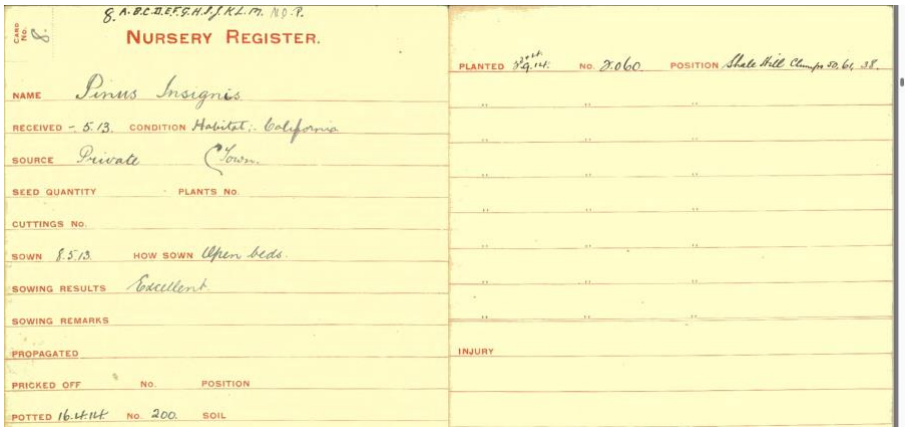
PRICKED OFF No. POSITION

POTTED No. SOIL

PLANTED No. POSITION

INJURY

NOTES No Official record kept since 1933.



NURSERY REGISTER.

NAME Pinus Insignis

RECEIVED 5.13. CONDITION Habitat. California

SOURCE Private Town.

SEED QUANTITY PLANTS No.

CUTTINGS No.

SOWN 8.5.13. HOW SOWN Open beds

SOWING RESULTS Excellent

SOWING REMARKS

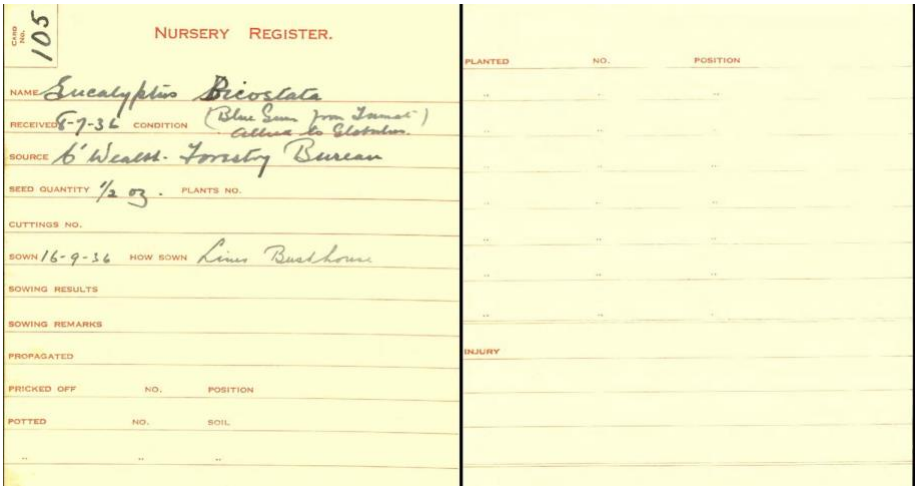
PROPAGATED

PRICKED OFF No. POSITION

POTTED 16.4.14 No. 200. SOIL

PLANTED 3.9.14. No. 2060 POSITION State Hill Clump 52.61.38.

INJURY



NURSERY REGISTER.

NAME Eucalyptus Biostata

RECEIVED 8-7-36 CONDITION (Blue Gum from Tumut) Callna La Globulus.

SOURCE N.S.Wales. Forestry Bureau

SEED QUANTITY ½ oz. PLANTS NO.

CUTTINGS NO.

SOWN 16-9-36 HOW SOWN Lines Beds Hours

SOWING RESULTS

SOWING REMARKS

PROPAGATED

PRICKED OFF NO. POSITION

POTTED NO. SOIL

PLANTED NO. POSITION

INJURY

Gap in records post 1929

The NAA *Research Guide on Commonwealth Records for the Australian Capital Territory 2013* noted the following about administrative changes from 1930:

> "The Federal Capital Commission was abolished in 1930, primarily due to financial stringencies caused by the Great Depression, and replaced by an Advisory Council."
> …
> In place of the commission, the government established the ACT Advisory Council. In its initial years, the council comprised three elected members and four appointed members, but this would change. As its name implied, the council was an advisory body only and was often ignored by ministers and governments, but it proved to be a staunch advocate for the Territory. It continued until 1974.
>
> Responsibility for land policy and administration within the Federal Capital Territory was returned to departmental control, with the establishment of the Federal Capital Territory's Branch of the Department of Home Affairs as the principal successor for general administrative and local land management matters."

Page 40 of the Research Guide refers to files for the *ACT Advisory Council* 1930-74 and its Committees - A4854 NC–70/01035 NC–70/01056.

As shown in the previous discussions about the north cemetery, the decisions related to recommendations proposing the creation of a plantation on the city side of the site were made in 1928 and 1931. There were no details provided as to the proposed species to be planted and when they were planted. It is possible that files related to the work of the ACT Advisory Council may contain such details. Unfortunately, files for this Council for the period 1930-54 are not currently available at ACT Archives. It is possible that they are in a collection of many thousands of files waiting to be reviewed and classified.

ArchivesACT Finding Aid

Federal Capital Commission Development Committee

Meeting Index

01/09/1927 to 17/05/1929

Appendix A - Federal Capital Commission Development Committee meeting index
Introduction
This index lists the topics discussed in the meetings held by the Federal Capital Commission's Development Committee from 1st September 1927 to 17th May 1929.

The Federal Capital Commission was responsible for the planning and development of Canberra from the 1st of January 1925. These meetings chart the early development of Canberra.

This Committee succeeded the Federal Capital Advisory Committee which operated from 1921 to 1924 and after an 8 year gap during the depression, was replaced by the National Capital Planning & Development Committee in 1938.

The members of the committee included:

Andrews, W.C.	**Irwin, J.C.**	**Overall, J.W.**	**Walkley, G.**
Ashworth, H.I.	**Lea, M.J.**	**Priddle, R.A.**	**Wilmoth, G.R.**
Boyd, R.	**Ledgar, R.W.**	**Ruddock, G.**	**Winston, D.**
Davey, G.I.	**Lindsay, D.**	**Stephenson, G.**	
Godfrey, W.P.R.	**McCutcheon, O.**	**Trendall, A.D.**	

For more information click on the following link to go to our: National Capital Development Commission Records Finding Aid

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1	1/09/1927	Chairman's Introductory Remarks		1
1	1/09/1927	Procedure of Committee		2
1	1/09/1927	Staff		2
1	1/09/1927	Precedence of Committee Work in Department		2
1	1/09/1927	Financial Authority for Committee Purposes		2
1	1/09/1927	Internal Committee Procedures		2
1	1/09/1927	Report of Molonglo Flood Prevention Committee		2
1	1/09/1927	Hydro Development		3
1	1/09/1927	Site for Building to House Combined Temperance Bodies		3
1	1/09/1927	Proposed North East Ainslie Subdivision		4

Meeting No.	Date	Heading	Subheading	Page
1	1/09/1927	Proposed Subdivision West of Northbourne Avenue		4
1	1/09/1927	Committee Procedure		4
1	1/09/1927	Memorandum re Site for Building to House Combined Temperance Bodies		5
2	6/09/1927	Molonglo River		1
2	6/09/1927	Canberra Milk Supply		3
2	6/09/1927	Abattoirs	1. Water Supply	6
2	6/09/1927	Abattoirs	2. Area of Land Required	6
2	6/09/1927	Abattoirs	3. Value of Surface Catchment	6
2	6/09/1927	Abattoirs	3. Schemetic Drawings of Abattoirs	7
2	6/09/1927	Water Supply		7
2	6/09/1927	Cemetery		9
2	6/09/1927	Public Conveniences		10
2	6/09/1927	Sports Grounds		10
2	6/09/1927	Race Course, Polo Ground and Show Ground		10
6	12/10/1927	Canberra Milk Supply		1
6	12/10/1927	Site for Burns Memorial Hall		1
6	12/10/1927	Cemetery		2
6	12/10/1927	Garbage etc, Disposal of	Pig Farm	2
6	12/10/1927	Disposal Sites		3
6	12/10/1927	Future Incinerator		4
6	12/10/1927	Building Site for Temperance Bodies Head Quarters		4
7	19/10/1927	Building Site for Temperance Bodies Head Quarters		1
7	19/10/1927	Camping Area for Motoring Tourists		1
7	19/10/1927	Sites for Public Conveniences		3
7	19/10/1927	Abattoirs	Water Supply	3
7	19/10/1927	Cemetery		3
7	19/10/1927	Petrol Bowsers		4
7	19/10/1927	Sites for Buildings for Scientific Institutions		4
7	19/10/1927	Sites for Recreation Grounds and Childrens Playground, Westridge		4
7	19/10/1927	Site for Pound Yard		4
7	19/10/1927	Site for Bowling Green, North of Molonglo River		4
8	2/11/1927	Westridge Sports Ground		1
8	2/11/1927	Milk Supply		1
8	2/11/1927	Abattoirs Water Supply		3
8	2/11/1927	Public Conveniences		4
8	2/11/1927	Cemetery		4
8	2/11/1927	Garbage Disposal Depot; Incinerator Site and Site for Bottle Depot		5
8	2/11/1927	Sites for Scientific Institutions		5
8	2/11/1927	Site for Commercial Travellers Assn Building		5

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9	2/11/1927	Westridge Sports Ground		1
9	2/11/1927	Site for Scientific Institutions		1
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9	2/11/1927	Abattoirs		1
9	2/11/1927	Milk Treatment		3
9	2/11/1927	Godfrey A Morrison's Application for Site for Amusement Grounds, Ainslie		5
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10	8/12/1927	Correspondence	Camping and Picnic Areas	1
10	8/12/1927	Correspondence	Bowsers	1
10	8/12/1927	Sites for Red Cross Building		1
10	8/12/1927	Abattoirs	Knocking Boxes and Grounding Area	2
10	8/12/1927	Abattoirs	Lower Road	2
10	8/12/1927	Abattoirs	Races and Ramps	2
10	8/12/1927	Abattoirs	Location of Pens in Relation to Prevailing Winds	2
10	8/12/1927	Abattoirs	Flies	2
10	8/12/1927	Abattoirs	Location of By-products and Hide Store	3
10	8/12/1927	Abattoirs	Refridgerating Chambers	3
10	8/12/1927	Abattoirs	Location of Pig Killing	3
10	8/12/1927	Abattoirs	Edible Fat	3
10	8/12/1927	Abattoirs	Dry Rendering	3
10	8/12/1927	Milk Treatment		3
10	8/12/1927	Cemetery	South Side	4
10	8/12/1927	Cemetery	North Side	4
10	8/12/1927	Garbage Disposals	Disposal Site	4
10	8/12/1927	Garbage Disposals	Hog Farm Site	4
10	8/12/1927	Garbage Disposals	Receptacles	4
10	8/12/1927	Garbage Disposals	Incinerator	4
10	8/12/1927	Westridge Sports Ground		5
10	8/12/1927	Explosives Magazine		5
11	24/01/1928	Sites for Cemeteries	Southern Site	1
11	24/01/1928	Sites for Cemeteries	Northern Site	1
11	24/01/1928	Hog Farm		2
11	24/01/1928	Site for Incinerator		4
11	24/01/1928	Explosives Magazine		4
11	24/01/1928	Milk Treatment		4
11	24/01/1928	Abattoirs		4
12	22/02/1928	Garbage Disposal		1
12	22/02/1928	Cemeteries Proposed Sites		3
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12	22/02/1928	Milk Treatment		3
12	22/02/1928	Explosives Magazine		3
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13	28/03/1928	Milk Treatment		1

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13	28/03/1928	Westridge Sports Ground		3
13	28/03/1928	Garbage Disposal - Hog Farm		3
13	28/03/1928	Bathing Facilities for Public		4
13	28/03/1928	Hydro-Electric Power Proposal for Future Development at Tantangara		5
14	29/03/1928	Site for Trades Hall		1
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14	29/03/1928	Site For Baptist Union of Australia		1
14	29/03/1928	Sites for Drill Halls		1
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Special	21/04/1928	Garbage Disposal (Hog Farm Site)		1
Special	4/05/1928	New Subdivisions for Building Purposes		1
Special	5/05/1928	New Subdivisions for Building Purposes		1
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15	9/05/1928	New Subdivision		2
15	9/05/1928	Bathing Facilities for the Public		2
15	9/05/1928	Garbage Disposal		2
15	9/05/1928	Abattoirs		4
15	9/05/1928	Drill Hall Sites	South Side	5
15	9/05/1928	Milk Treatment		5
15	9/05/1928	City Railway		5
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15	9/05/1928	Cemetery Sites	Northern Site	7
15	9/05/1928	Captain's Flat Revival - Land Tenure		8
16	1/06/1928	Bathing Facilities for the Public		1
16	1/06/1928	Mining Operations at Captain's Flat		2
16	1/06/1928	Cemetery Site (South)		3
17	6/07/1928	Arising Out of Minutes	Cemetery Site (South)	1
17	6/07/1928	Arising Out of Minutes	Mining Operations at Captain's Flat	1
17	6/07/1928	Arising Out of Minutes	Bathing Facilities for the Public	1
17	6/07/1928	Sports Grounds Forrest Area		2
17	6/07/1928	New Subdivisions		3
17	6/07/1928	Sites for Drill Hall	North Side	3
17	6/07/1928	Sites for Drill Hall	South Side	3
17	6/07/1928	Garbage Disposal		3
17	6/07/1928	Milk Treatment Plant		3
17	6/07/1928	Projected Abattoirs		4
18	30/07/1928	Garbage Disposal	Hog Farm	1
18	30/07/1928	Canberra Slaughter House		2

Meeting No.	Date	Heading	Subheading	Page
18	30/07/1928	Shopping Facilities Other Than at Established Trading Centres		2
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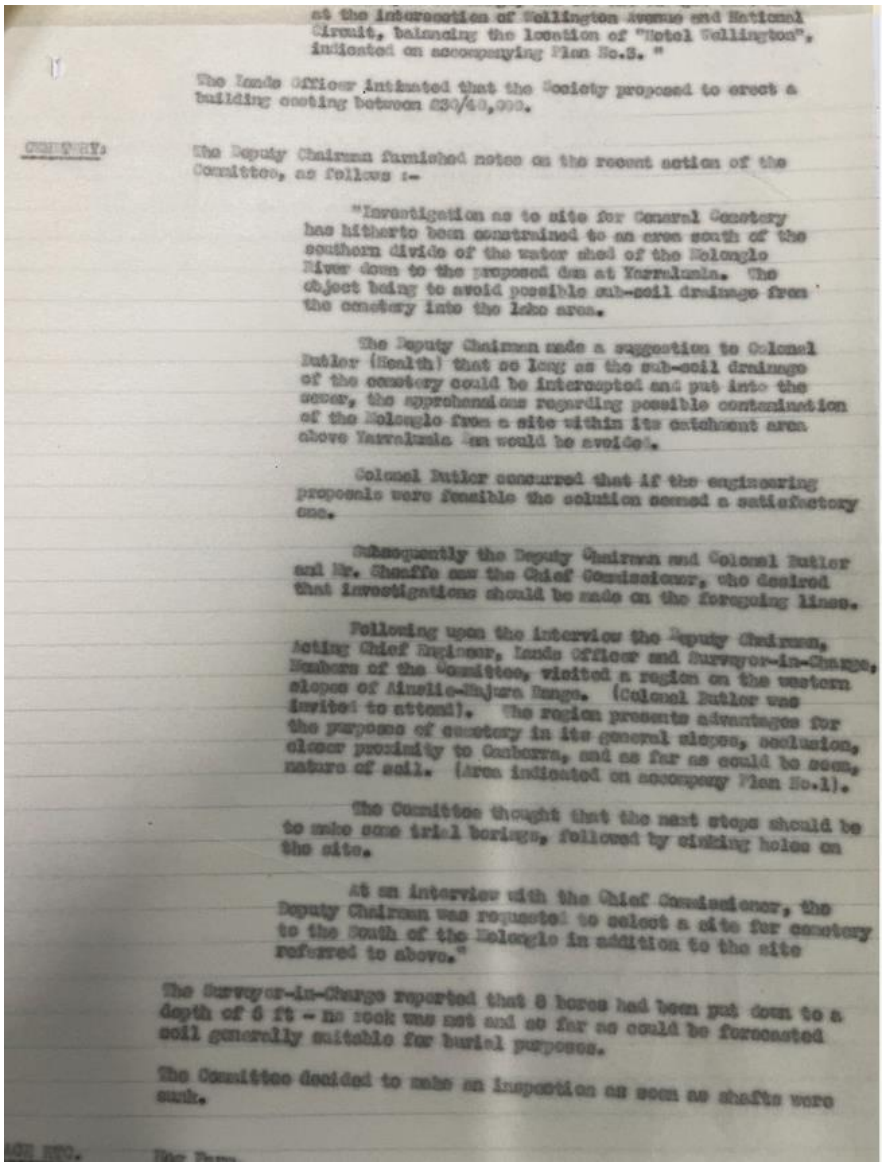
22	19/10/1928	Temporary Building Construction at Acton - Building Alignments		1
22	19/10/1928	Jolimont Office Building -Re-erection at City		1
22	19/10/1928	Building Allotments and New Subdivisions		1
22	19/10/1928	Building Allotments and New Subdivisions	Area No. 2 - Reference Chief Commissioner's Chart	2
22	19/10/1928	Building Allotments and New Subdivisions	Area No. 3 - Reference Chief Commissioner's Chart	2
22	19/10/1928	Building Allotments and New Subdivisions	Area No. 4 - Reference Chief Commissioner's Chart	2
24	7/11/1928	Proposed New Sub-Division	Area No. 12 - Reference Chief Commissioner's Chart	1
24	7/11/1928	Reservation of Blocks for Community Purposes	(a) In New Subdivision	1
24	7/11/1928	Reservation of Blocks for Community Purposes	(b) In Existing Subdivision	1
Special	6/08/1928	Allotment of Sites for Houses - Existing and New Subdivisions		1
Special	6/08/1928	Projected Church of England Boys Grammar School		2
25	3/12/1928	Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers Catchment Areas - Land Tenure		1
25	3/12/1928	New Subdivisions Proposed Modification of City Plan - District of Turner		1
25	3/12/1928	Molonglo River - Pollution Arising From Mining Operations at Captain's Flat		2
25	3/12/1928	Proposed Anglican Cathedral		2
26	7/12/1928	Proposed Anglican Cathedral		1
26	7/12/1928	New Subdivisions District of Turner Modification of City Plan		1
26	7/12/1928	New Subdivision District of Yarralumla		1
26	7/12/1928	Westridge - Sports Ground and Children's Playground		1
27	25/01/1929	Sullivan's Creek - Proposed Modification of Course		1
27	25/01/1929	Proposed Anglican Cathedral		1
28	7/02/1929	Proposed Anglican Cathedral		1
29	14/02/1929	Molonglo and Queanbeyan Rivers Catchment Areas - Alienation of Land		1
30	26/04/1929	Milk Treatment Proposals		1
30	26/04/1929	Shopping Facilities		1
30	26/04/1929	Reservations Within Areas for Future Development		1
30	26/04/1929	City Railway		1
30	26/04/1929	Additional Windbreaks City Area	North Side	2
30	26/04/1929	Additional Windbreaks City Area	South Side	2

Meeting No.	Date	Heading	Subheading	Page
30	26/04/1929	Proposed Resubdivision Red Hill - Section 3, Division 22		2
Special	2/05/1929	Site for Church for the Congregational Union of Australia and New Zealand		1
31	17/05/1929	Proposed Resubdivision Red Hill - Section 3, Division 22		1
31	17/05/1929	Alienation of Land - AA Powell's Application		1
31	17/05/1929	Proposed Tennis Courts for Barton Club		1
31	17/05/1929	Site for Proposed Congregational Church		2
31	17/05/1929	Sale Yards - Site for		2
31	17/05/1929	Grazing Areas in or Adjoining City Boundary		2
31	17/05/1929	New Subdivisions - Provision for Semi-Detached and Single Front Residences	Ainslie - Section 6 - Foveaux Street	2
31	17/05/1929	New Subdivisions - Provision for Semi-Detached and Single Front Residences	Reid - Sections 23 and 24 - Booroondara Street	2
31	17/05/1929	New Subdivisions - Provision for Semi-Detached and Single Front Residences	Griffith - Furneaux, Bougainville and Flinders Streets	2

Appendix B - page 9 of record of meeting No.2 - 6 September 1927



at the intersection of Wellington Avenue and National Circuit, balancing the location of "Hotel Wellington", indicated on accompanying Plan No.3. "

The Lands Officer intimated that the Society proposed to erect a building costing between £30/40,000.

CEMETERY. The Deputy Chairman furnished notes on the recent action of the Committee, as follows :-

"Investigation as to site for General Cemetery has hitherto been constrained to an area south of the southern divide of the water shed of the Molonglo River down to the proposed dam at Yarralumla. The object being to avoid possible sub-soil drainage from the cemetery into the lake area.

The Deputy Chairman made a suggestion to Colonel Butler (Health) that so long as the sub-soil drainage of the cemetery could be intercepted and put into the sewer, the apprehensions regarding possible contamination of the Molonglo from a site within its catchment area above Yarralumla dam would be avoided.

Colonel Butler concurred that if the engineering proposals were feasible the solution seemed a satisfactory one.

Subsequently the Deputy Chairman and Colonel Butler and Mr. Shaeffe saw the Chief Commissioner, who desired that investigations should be made on the foregoing lines.

Following upon the interview the Deputy Chairman, Acting Chief Engineer, Lands Officer and Surveyor-in-Charge, Members of the Committee, visited a region on the western slopes of Ainslie-Majura Range. (Colonel Butler was invited to attend). The region presents advantages for the purposes of cemetery in its general slopes, seclusion, closer proximity to Canberra, and as far as could be seen, nature of soil. (Area indicated on accompany Plan No.1).

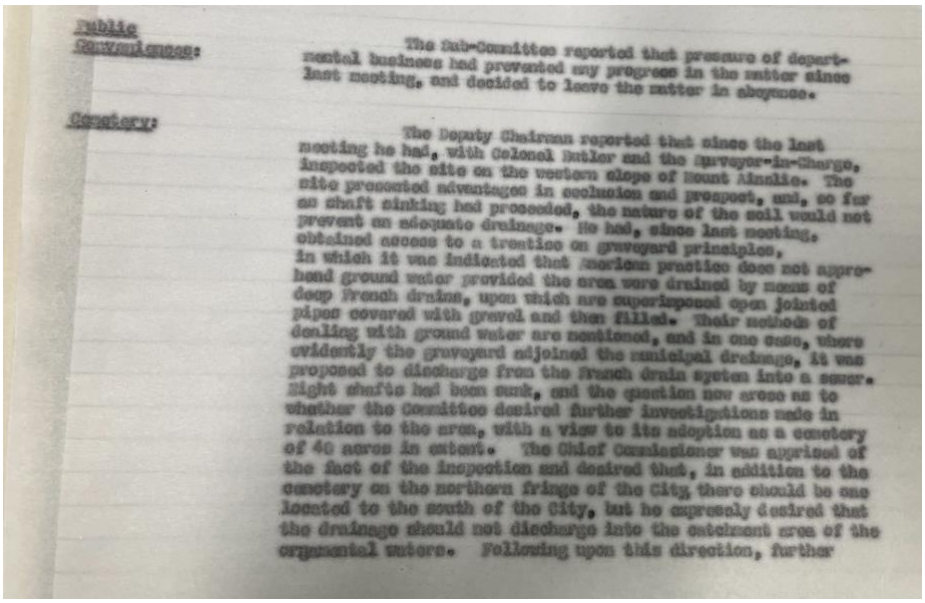
The Committee thought that the next steps should be to make some trial borings, followed by sinking holes on the site.

At an interview with the Chief Commissioner, the Deputy Chairman was requested to select a site for cemetery to the South of the Molonglo in addition to the site referred to above."

The Surveyor-in-Charge reported that 8 bores had been put down to a depth of 6 ft - no rock was met and so far as could be forecasted soil generally suitable for burial purposes.

The Committee decided to make an inspection as soon as shafts were sunk.

Appendix C – pages 4&5 of meeting No. 8 - 2 November 1927

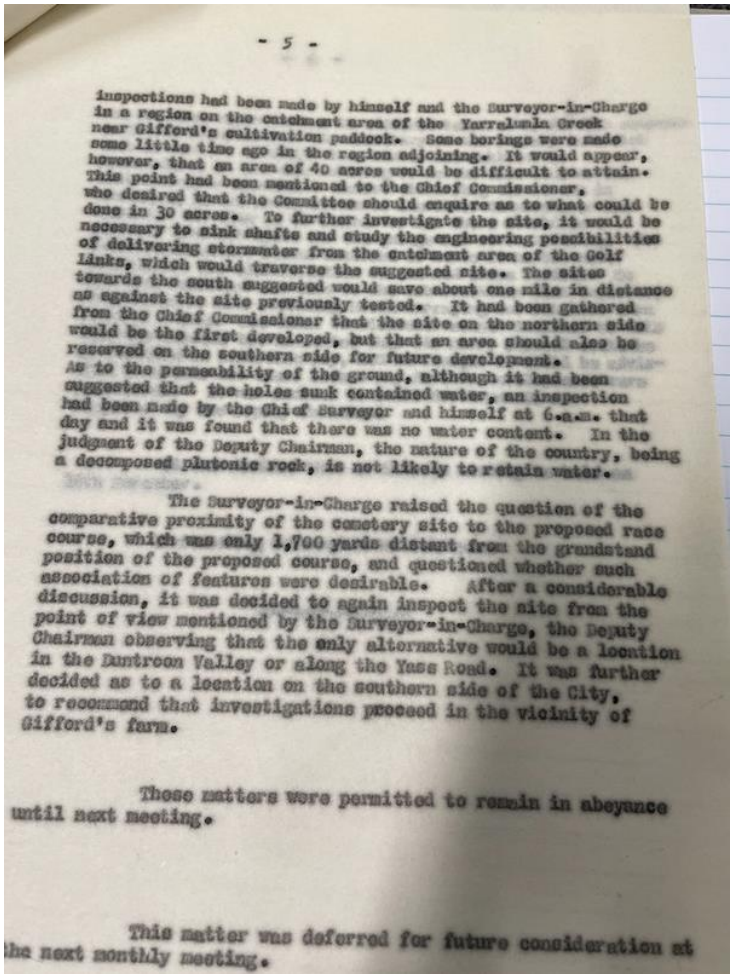


Public Conveniences:

The Sub-Committee reported that pressure of departmental business had prevented any progress in the matter since last meeting, and decided to leave the matter in abeyance.

Cemetery:

The Deputy Chairman reported that since the last meeting he had, with Colonel Butler and the Surveyor-in-Charge, inspected the site on the western slope of Mount Ainslie. The site presented advantages in seclusion and prospect, and, so far as shaft sinking had proceeded, the nature of the soil would not prevent an adequate drainage. He had, since last meeting, obtained access to a treatise on graveyard principles, in which it was indicated that American practice does not apprehend ground water provided the area were drained by means of deep French drains, upon which are superimposed open jointed pipes covered with gravel and then filled. Their methods of dealing with ground water are mentioned, and in one case, where evidently the graveyard adjoined the municipal drainage, it was proposed to discharge from the French drain system into a sewer. Eight shafts had been sunk, and the question now arose as to whether the Committee desired further investigations made in relation to the area, with a view to its adoption as a cemetery of 40 acres in extent. The Chief Commissioner was apprised of the fact of the inspection and desired that, in addition to the cemetery on the northern fringe of the City, there should be one located to the south of the City, but he expressly desired that the drainage should not discharge into the catchment area of the ornamental waters. Following upon this direction, further



- 5 -

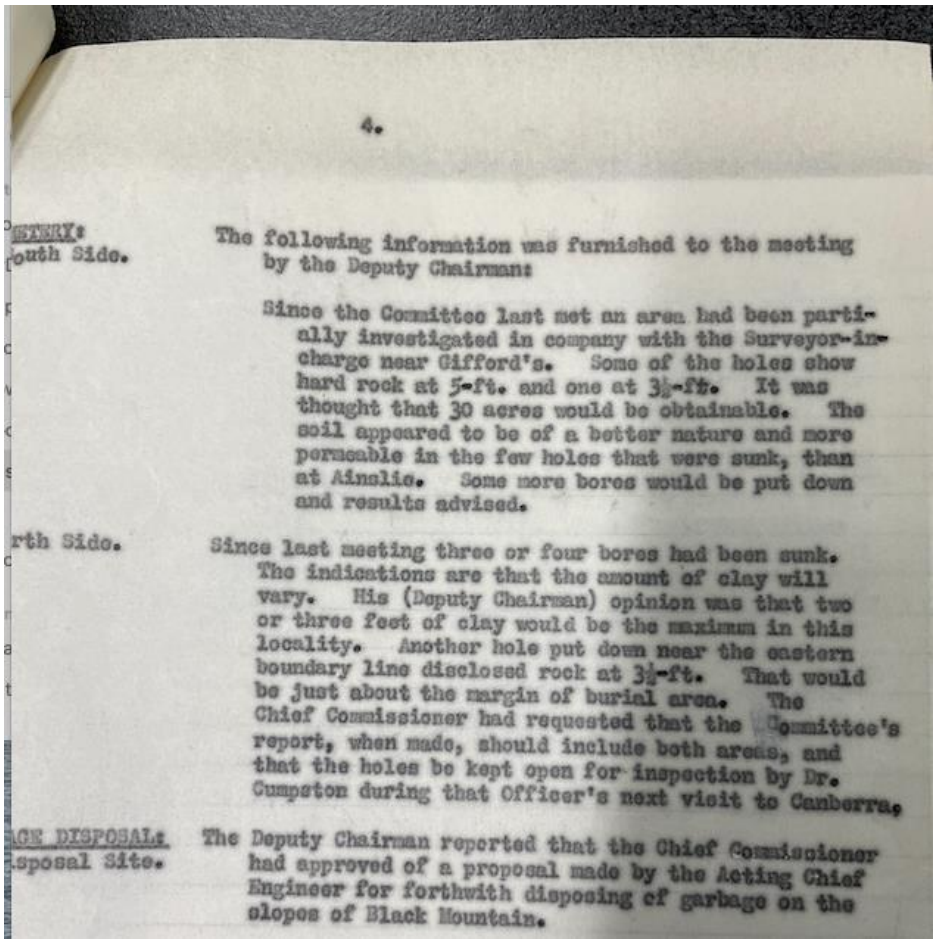
inspections had been made by himself and the Surveyor-in-Charge in a region on the catchment area of the Yarralumla Creek near Gifford's cultivation paddock. Some borings were made some little time ago in the region adjoining. It would appear, however, that an area of 40 acres would be difficult to attain. This point had been mentioned to the Chief Commissioner, who desired that the Committee should enquire as to what could be done in 30 acres. To further investigate the site, it would be necessary to sink shafts and study the engineering possibilities of delivering stormwater from the catchment area of the Golf Links, which would traverse the suggested site. The sites towards the south suggested would save about one mile in distance as against the site previously tested. It had been gathered from the Chief Commissioner that the site on the northern side would be the first developed, but that an area should also be reserved on the southern side for future development. As to the permeability of the ground, although it had been suggested that the holes sunk contained water, an inspection had been made by the Chief Surveyor and himself at 6.a.m. that day and it was found that there was no water content. In the judgment of the Deputy Chairman, the nature of the country, being a decomposed plutonic rock, is not likely to retain water.

The Surveyor-in-Charge raised the question of the comparative proximity of the cemetery site to the proposed race course, which was only 1,700 yards distant from the grandstand position of the proposed course, and questioned whether such association of features were desirable. After a considerable discussion, it was decided to again inspect the site from the point of view mentioned by the Surveyor-in-Charge, the Deputy Chairman observing that the only alternative would be a location in the Duntroon Valley or along the Yass Road. It was further decided as to a location on the southern side of the City, to recommend that investigations proceed in the vicinity of Gifford's farm.

These matters were permitted to remain in abeyance until next meeting.

This matter was deferred for future consideration at the next monthly meeting.

Appendix D – page 4 of meeting No. 10 – 8 December 1927



4.

METERY:
outh Side.

The following information was furnished to the meeting by the Deputy Chairman:

Since the Committee last met an area had been partially investigated in company with the Surveyor-in-charge near Gifford's. Some of the holes show hard rock at 5-ft. and one at 3½-ft. It was thought that 30 acres would be obtainable. The soil appeared to be of a better nature and more permeable in the few holes that were sunk, than at Ainslie. Some more bores would be put down and results advised.

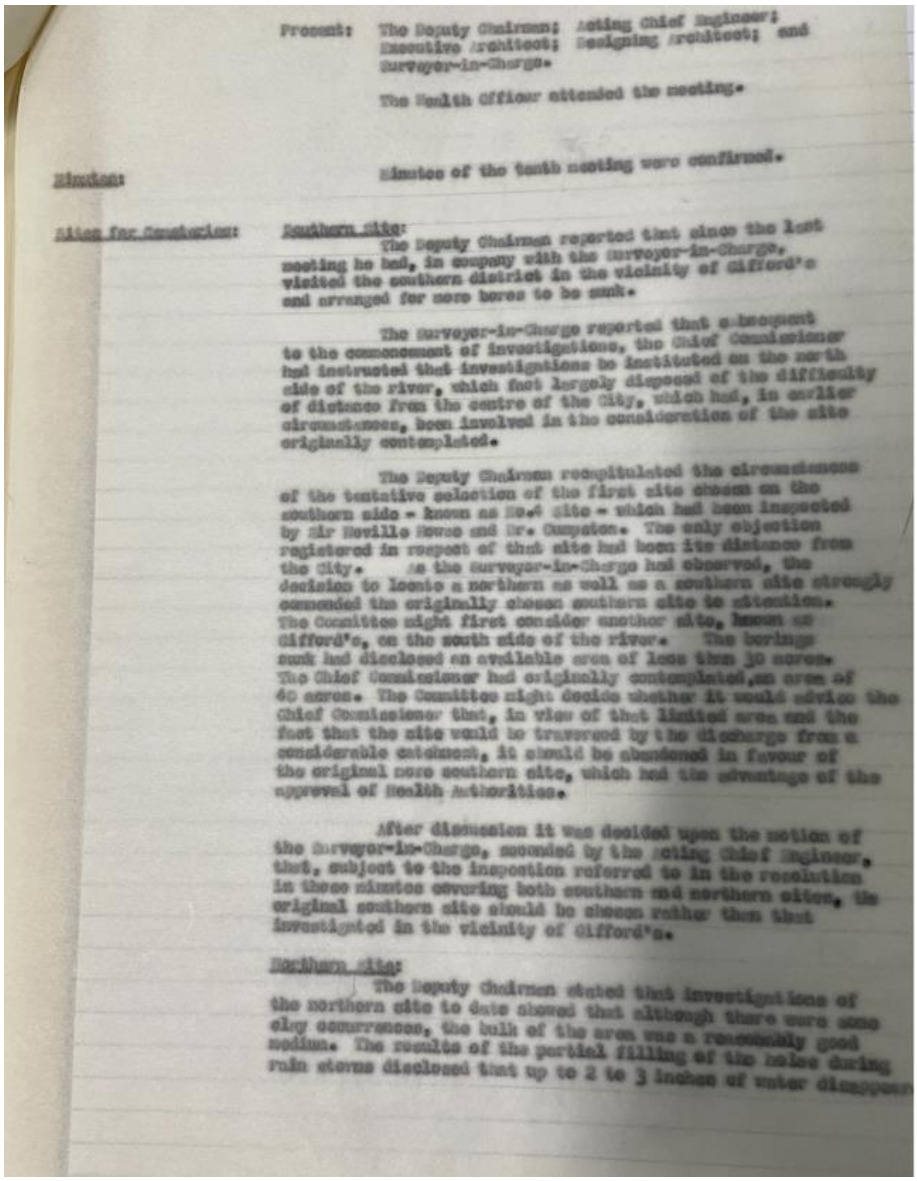
rth Side.

Since last meeting three or four bores had been sunk. The indications are that the amount of clay will vary. His (Deputy Chairman) opinion was that two or three feet of clay would be the maximum in this locality. Another hole put down near the eastern boundary line disclosed rock at 3½-ft. That would be just about the margin of burial area. The Chief Commissioner had requested that the Committee's report, when made, should include both areas, and that the holes be kept open for inspection by Dr. Cumpston during that Officer's next visit to Canberra.

AGE DISPOSAL:
isposal Site.

The Deputy Chairman reported that the Chief Commissioner had approved of a proposal made by the Acting Chief Engineer for forthwith disposing of garbage on the slopes of Black Mountain.

Appendix E – pages 1&2 of meeting No. 11 - 24 January 1928



Present: The Deputy Chairman; Acting Chief Engineer; Executive Architect; Designing Architect; and Surveyor-in-Charge.

The Health Officer attended the meeting.

Minutes: Minutes of the tenth meeting were confirmed.

Sites for Consideration: Southern Site:

The Deputy Chairman reported that since the last meeting he had, in company with the Surveyor-in-Charge, visited the southern district in the vicinity of Gifford's and arranged for more bores to be sunk.

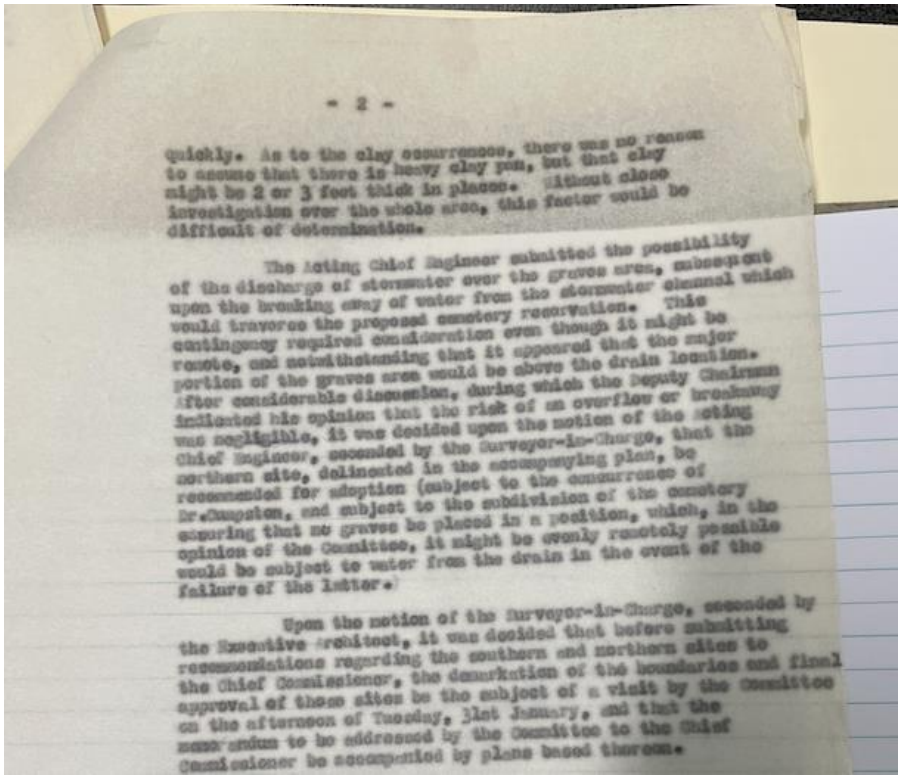
The Surveyor-in-Charge reported that subsequent to the commencement of investigations, the Chief Commissioner had instructed that investigations be instituted on the north side of the river, which fact largely disposed of the difficulty of distance from the centre of the City, which had, in earlier circumstances, been involved in the consideration of the site originally contemplated.

The Deputy Chairman recapitulated the circumstances of the tentative selection of the first site chosen on the southern side - known as No.4 Site - which had been inspected by Sir Neville Howse and Dr. Cumpston. The only objection registered in respect of that site had been its distance from the City. As the Surveyor-in-Charge had observed, the decision to locate a northern as well as a southern site strongly commended the originally chosen southern site to attention. The Committee might first consider another site, known as Gifford's, on the south side of the river. The borings sunk had disclosed an available area of less than 30 acres. The Chief Commissioner had originally contemplated an area of 60 acres. The Committee might decide whether it would advise the Chief Commissioner that, in view of that limited area and the fact that the site would be traversed by the discharge from a considerable catchment, it should be abandoned in favour of the original more southern site, which had the advantage of the approval of Health Authorities.

After discussion it was decided upon the motion of the Surveyor-in-Charge, seconded by the Acting Chief Engineer, that, subject to the inspection referred to in the resolution in these minutes covering both southern and northern sites, the original southern site should be chosen rather than that investigated in the vicinity of Gifford's.

Northern Site:

The Deputy Chairman stated that investigations of the northern site to date showed that although there were some clay occurrences, the bulk of the area was a reasonably good medium. The results of the partial filling of the holes during rain storms disclosed that up to 2 to 3 inches of water disappear

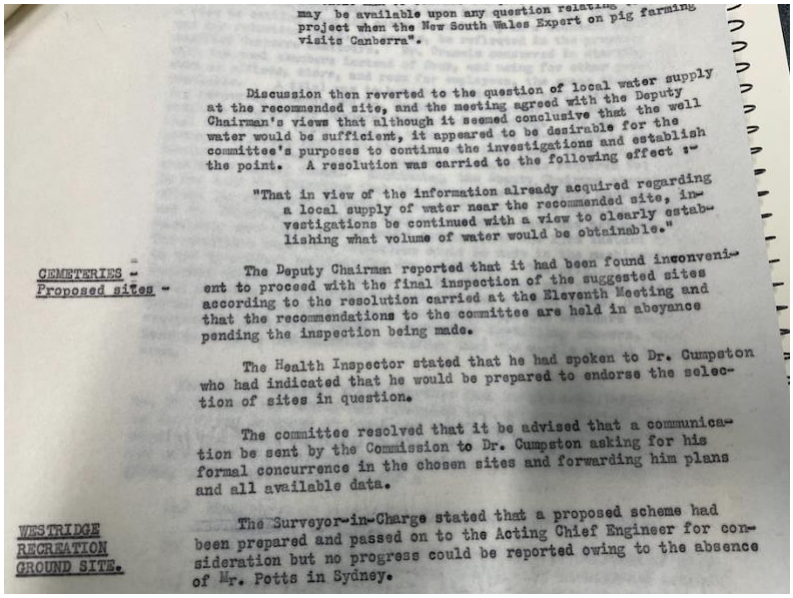


quickly. As to the clay occurrence, there was no reason to assume that there is heavy clay pan, but that clay might be 2 or 3 feet thick in places. Without close investigation over the whole area, this factor would be difficult of determination.

The Acting Chief Engineer submitted the possibility of the discharge of stormwater over the graves area, subsequent upon the breaking away of water from the stormwater channel which would traverse the proposed cemetery reservation. This contingency required consideration even though it might be remote, and notwithstanding that it appeared that the major portion of the graves area would be above the drain location. After considerable discussion, during which the Deputy Chairman indicated his opinion that the risk of an overflow or breakway was negligible, it was decided upon the motion of the Acting Chief Engineer, seconded by the Surveyor-in-Charge, that the northern site, delineated in the accompanying plan, be recommended for adoption (subject to the concurrence of Dr.Campion, and subject to the subdivision of the cemetery ensuring that no graves be placed in a position, which, in the opinion of the Committee, it might be evenly remotely possible would be subject to water from the drain in the event of the failure of the latter.)

Upon the motion of the Surveyor-in-Charge, seconded by the Executive Architect, it was decided that before submitting recommendations regarding the southern and northern sites to the Chief Commissioner, the demarkation of the boundaries and final approval of these sites be the subject of a visit by the Committee on the afternoon of Tuesday, 31st January, and that the memorandum to be addressed by the Committee to the Chief Commissioner be accompanied by plans based thereon.

Appendix F – page 3 of meeting No. 12 - 22 February 1928



may be available upon any question relating
project when the New South Wales Expert on pig farming
visits Canberra".

Discussion then reverted to the question of local water supply at the recommended site, and the meeting agreed with the Deputy Chairman's views that although it seemed conclusive that the well water would be sufficient, it appeared to be desirable for the committee's purposes to continue the investigations and establish the point. A resolution was carried to the following effect :-

"That in view of the information already acquired regarding a local supply of water near the recommended site, investigations be continued with a view to clearly establishing what volume of water would be obtainable."

CEMETERIES - Proposed sites -

The Deputy Chairman reported that it had been found inconvenient to proceed with the final inspection of the suggested sites according to the resolution carried at the Eleventh Meeting and that the recommendations to the committee are held in abeyance pending the inspection being made.

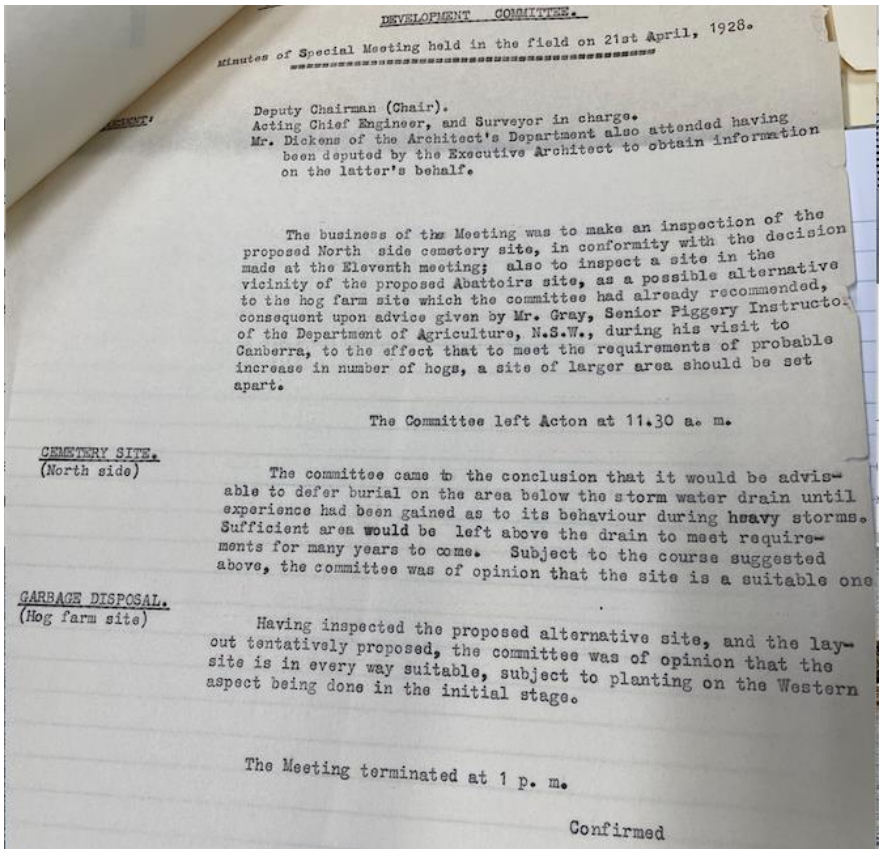
The Health Inspector stated that he had spoken to Dr. Cumpston who had indicated that he would be prepared to endorse the selection of sites in question.

The committee resolved that it be advised that a communication be sent by the Commission to Dr. Cumpston asking for his formal concurrence in the chosen sites and forwarding him plans and all available data.

WESTRIDGE RECREATION GROUND SITE.

The Surveyor-in-Charge stated that a proposed scheme had been prepared and passed on to the Acting Chief Engineer for consideration but no progress could be reported owing to the absence of Mr. Potts in Sydney.

Appendix G – page 1 of Special meeting - 21 April 1928



DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

Minutes of Special Meeting held in the field on 21st April, 1928.

Deputy Chairman (Chair).
Acting Chief Engineer, and Surveyor in charge.
Mr. Dickens of the Architect's Department also attended having been deputed by the Executive Architect to obtain information on the latter's behalf.

The business of the Meeting was to make an inspection of the proposed North side cemetery site, in conformity with the decision made at the Eleventh meeting; also to inspect a site in the vicinity of the proposed Abattoirs site, as a possible alternative to the hog farm site which the committee had already recommended, consequent upon advice given by Mr. Gray, Senior Piggery Instructor of the Department of Agriculture, N.S.W., during his visit to Canberra, to the effect that to meet the requirements of probable increase in number of hogs, a site of larger area should be set apart.

The Committee left Acton at 11.30 a. m.

CEMETERY SITE.
(North side)

The committee came to the conclusion that it would be advisable to defer burial on the area below the storm water drain until experience had been gained as to its behaviour during heavy storms. Sufficient area would be left above the drain to meet requirements for many years to come. Subject to the course suggested above, the committee was of opinion that the site is a suitable one

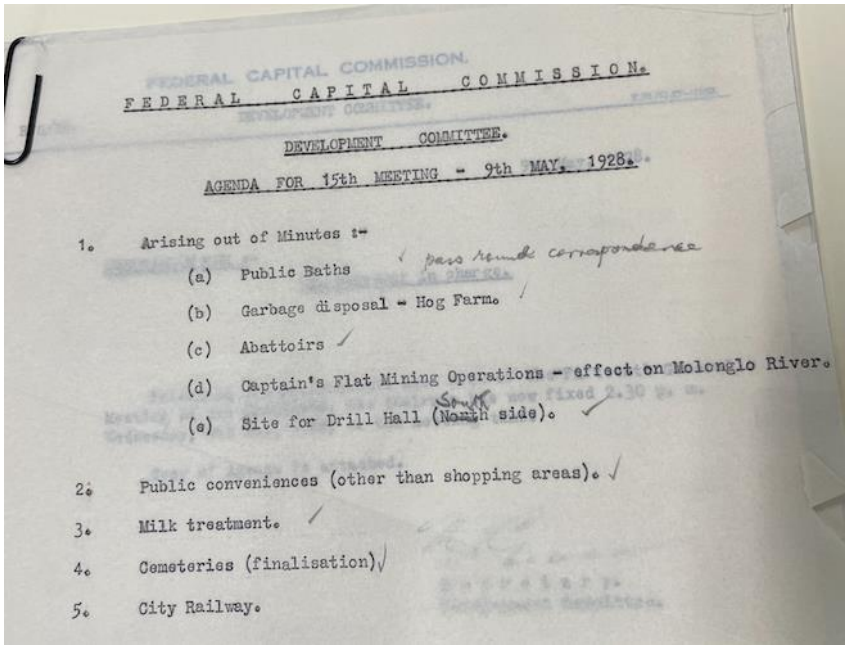
GARBAGE DISPOSAL.
(Hog farm site)

Having inspected the proposed alternative site, and the layout tentatively proposed, the committee was of opinion that the site is in every way suitable, subject to planting on the Western aspect being done in the initial stage.

The Meeting terminated at 1 p. m.

Confirmed

Appendix H – pages 7&8 of meeting No. 15 - 9 May 1928
Note – reference to plantation near proposed north side cemetery site on page 8



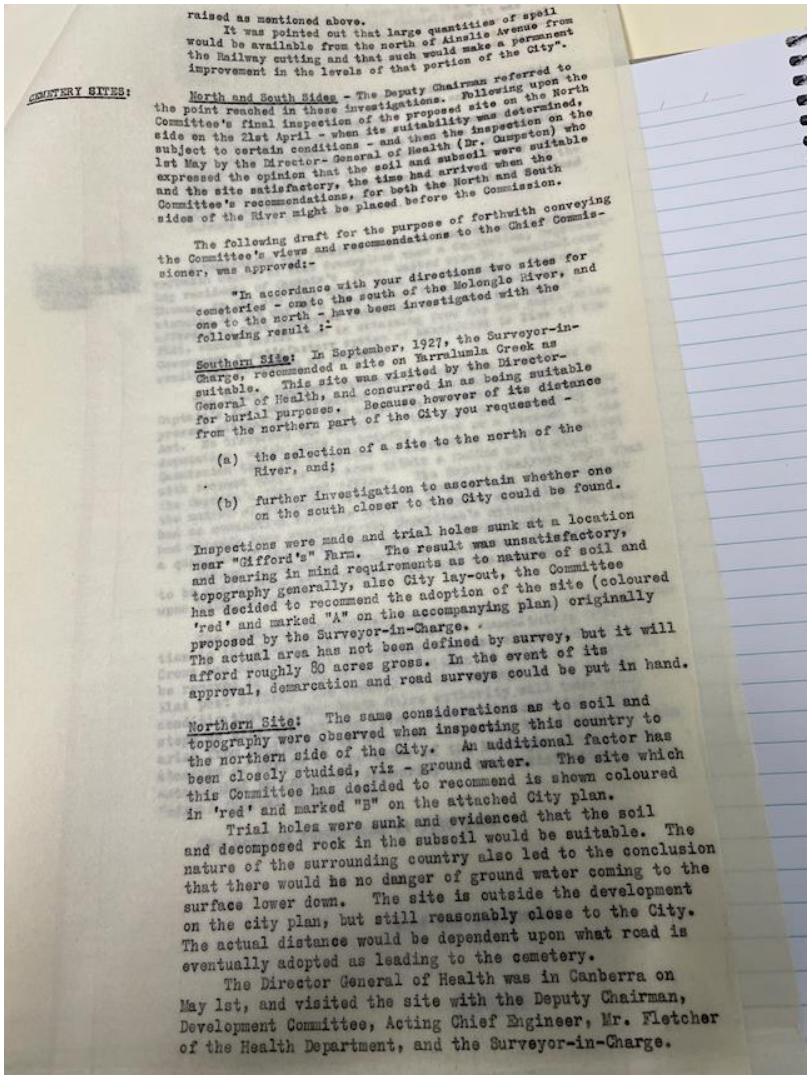
FEDERAL CAPITAL COMMISSION.

FEDERAL CAPITAL COMMISSION.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

AGENDA FOR 15th MEETING - 9th MAY, 1928.

1. Arising out of Minutes :-
   (a) Public Baths ✓ pass round correspondence
   (b) Garbage disposal - Hog Farm. ✓
   (c) Abattoirs ✓
   (d) Captain's Flat Mining Operations - effect on Molonglo River.
   (e) Site for Drill Hall (North side). ✓
2. Public conveniences (other than shopping areas). ✓
3. Milk treatment. ✓
4. Cemeteries (finalisation) ✓
5. City Railway.



raised as mentioned above.

It was pointed out that large quantities of spoil would be available from the north of Ainslie Avenue from the Railway cutting and that such would make a permanent improvement in the levels of that portion of the City".

CEMETERY SITES:

North and South Sides - The Deputy Chairman referred to the point reached in these investigations. Following upon the Committee's final inspection of the proposed site on the North side on the 21st April - when its suitability was determined, subject to certain conditions - and then the inspection on the 1st May by the Director-General of Health (Dr. Cumpston) who expressed the opinion that the soil and subsoil were suitable and the site satisfactory, the time had arrived when the Committee's recommendations, for both the North and South sides of the River might be placed before the Commission.

The following draft for the purpose of forthwith conveying the Committee's views and recommendations to the Chief Commissioner, was approved:-

"In accordance with your directions two sites for cemeteries - one to the south of the Molonglo River, and one to the north - have been investigated with the following result :-

Southern Site: In September, 1927, the Surveyor-in-Charge, recommended a site on Yarralumla Creek as suitable. This site was visited by the Director-General of Health, and concurred in as being suitable for burial purposes. Because however of its distance from the northern part of the City you requested -

(a) the selection of a site to the north of the River, and;

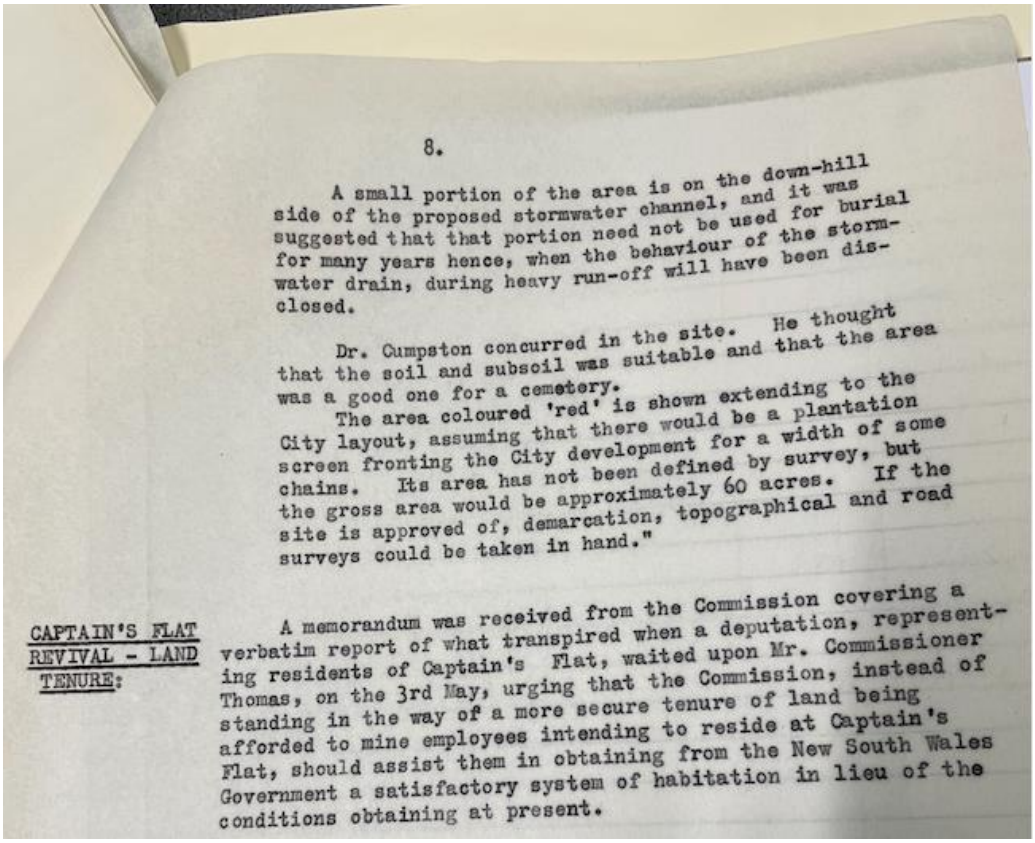
(b) further investigation to ascertain whether one on the south closer to the City could be found.

Inspections were made and trial holes sunk at a location near "Gifford's" Farm. The result was unsatisfactory, and bearing in mind requirements as to nature of soil and topography generally, also City lay-out, the Committee has decided to recommend the adoption of the site (coloured 'red' and marked "A" on the accompanying plan) originally proposed by the Surveyor-in-Charge. The actual area has not been defined by survey, but it will afford roughly 80 acres gross. In the event of its approval, demarcation and road surveys could be put in hand.

Northern Site: The same considerations as to soil and topography were observed when inspecting this country to the northern side of the City. An additional factor has been closely studied, viz - ground water. The site which this Committee has decided to recommend is shown coloured in 'red' and marked "B" on the attached City plan.

Trial holes were sunk and evidenced that the soil and decomposed rock in the subsoil would be suitable. The nature of the surrounding country also led to the conclusion that there would be no danger of ground water coming to the surface lower down. The site is outside the development on the city plan, but still reasonably close to the City. The actual distance would be dependent upon what road is eventually adopted as leading to the cemetery.

The Director General of Health was in Canberra on May 1st, and visited the site with the Deputy Chairman, Development Committee, Acting Chief Engineer, Mr. Fletcher of the Health Department, and the Surveyor-in-Charge.



A small portion of the area is on the down-hill side of the proposed stormwater channel, and it was suggested that that portion need not be used for burial for many years hence, when the behaviour of the storm-water drain, during heavy run-off will have been disclosed.

Dr. Cumpston concurred in the site. He thought that the soil and subsoil was suitable and that the area was a good one for a cemetery.

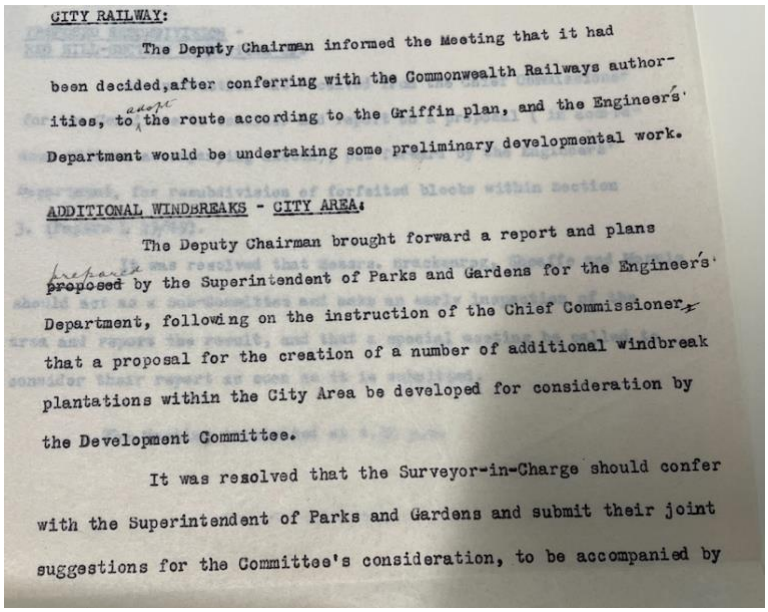
The area coloured 'red' is shown extending to the City layout, assuming that there would be a plantation screen fronting the City development for a width of some chains. Its area has not been defined by survey, but the gross area would be approximately 60 acres. If the site is approved of, demarcation, topographical and road surveys could be taken in hand."

CAPTAIN'S FLAT REVIVAL - LAND TENURE:

A memorandum was received from the Commission covering a verbatim report of what transpired when a deputation, representing residents of Captain's Flat, waited upon Mr. Commissioner Thomas, on the 3rd May, urging that the Commission, instead of standing in the way of a more secure tenure of land being afforded to mine employees intending to reside at Captain's Flat, should assist them in obtaining from the New South Wales Government a satisfactory system of habitation in lieu of the conditions obtaining at present.

Appendix I – pages 2&3 of Meeting No. 30 - 24 April 1929

The Committee also considered the establishment of additional windbreaks in the city area but no reference to north cemetery site.



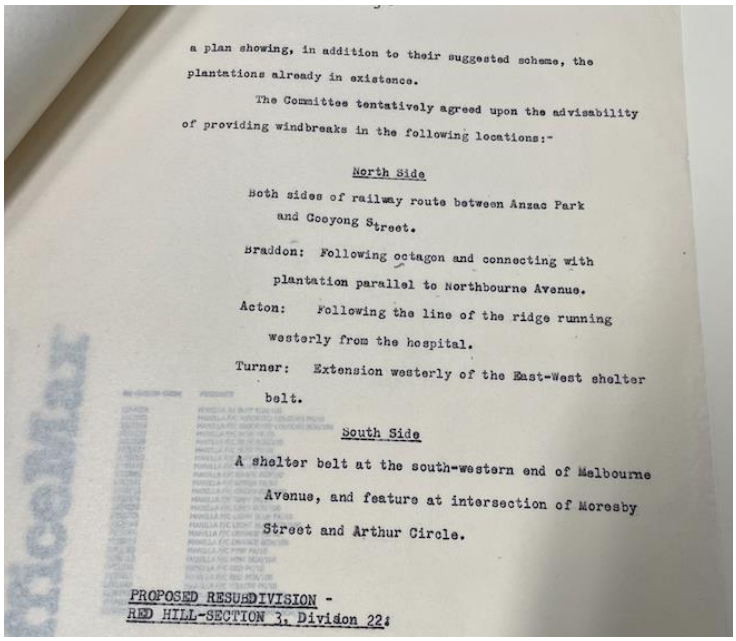
CITY RAILWAY:

The Deputy Chairman informed the Meeting that it had been decided, after conferring with the Commonwealth Railways authorities, to adopt the route according to the Griffin plan, and the Engineers' Department would be undertaking some preliminary developmental work.

ADDITIONAL WINDBREAKS - CITY AREA:

The Deputy Chairman brought forward a report and plans ~~proposed~~ prepared by the Superintendent of Parks and Gardens for the Engineer's Department, following on the instruction of the Chief Commissioner that a proposal for the creation of a number of additional windbreak plantations within the City Area be developed for consideration by the Development Committee.

It was resolved that the Surveyor-in-Charge should confer with the Superintendent of Parks and Gardens and submit their joint suggestions for the Committee's consideration, to be accompanied by



a plan showing, in addition to their suggested scheme, the plantations already in existence.

The Committee tentatively agreed upon the advisability of providing windbreaks in the following locations:-

North Side

Both sides of railway route between Anzac Park and Cooyong Street.

Braddon: Following octagon and connecting with plantation parallel to Northbourne Avenue.

Acton: Following the line of the ridge running westerly from the hospital.

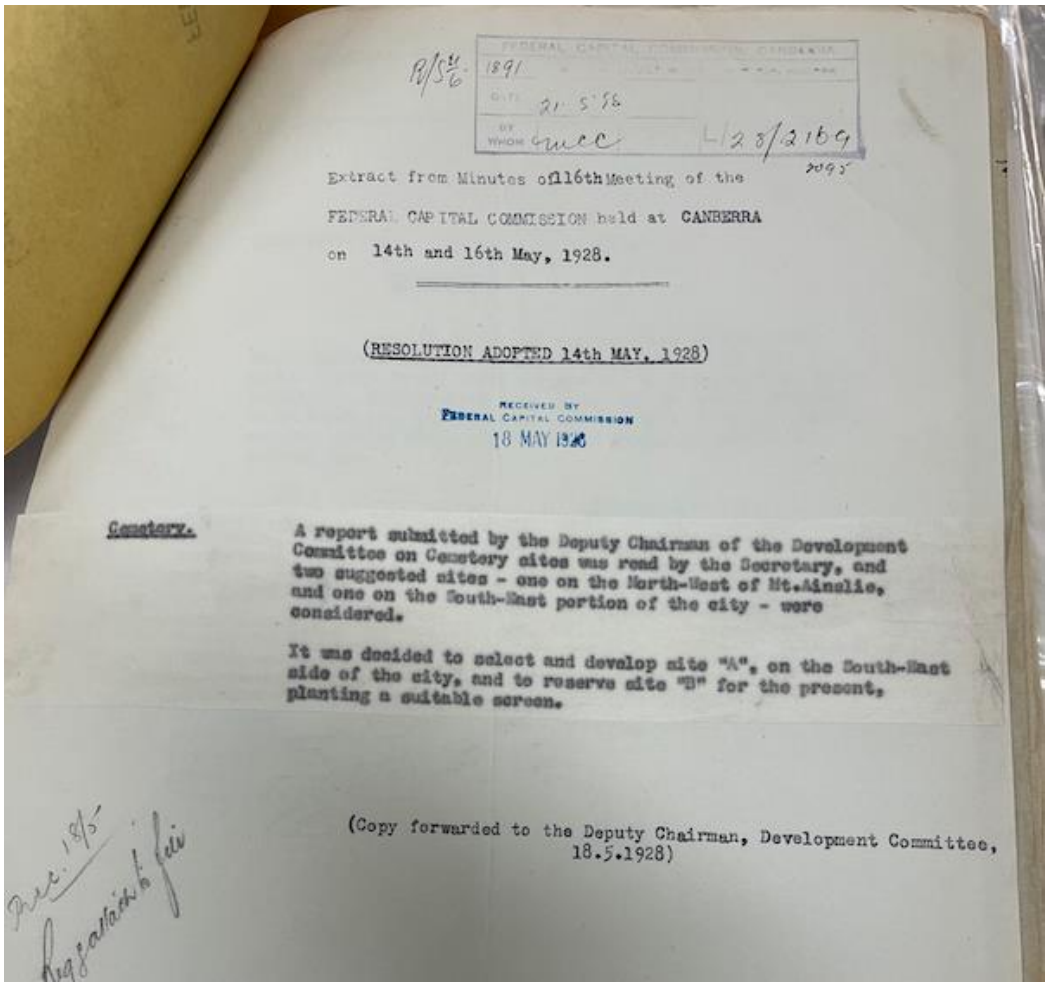
Turner: Extension westerly of the East-West shelter belt.

South Side

A shelter belt at the south-western end of Melbourne Avenue, and feature at intersection of Moresby Street and Arthur Circle.

PROPOSED RESUBDIVISION - RED HILL-SECTION 3, Dividon 22:

Appendix J – NAA – Canberra Cemetery Site file - 14 May 1928



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Extract from Minutes of 116th Meeting of the
FEDERAL CAPITAL COMMISSION held at CANBERRA
on 14th and 16th May, 1928.

(RESOLUTION ADOPTED 14th MAY, 1928)

RECEIVED BY
FEDERAL CAPITAL COMMISSION
18 MAY 1928

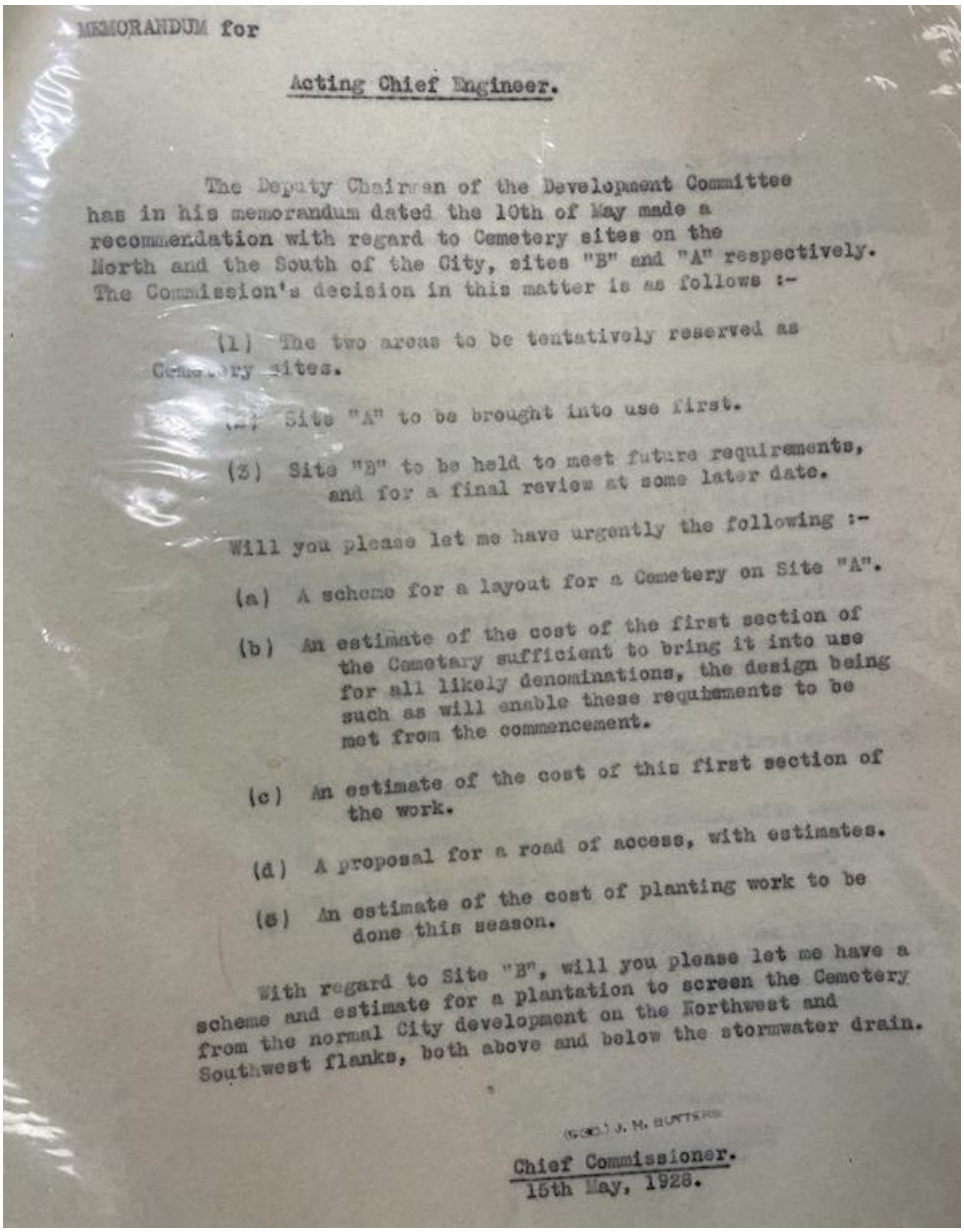
Cemetery. A report submitted by the Deputy Chairman of the Development Committee on Cemetery sites was read by the Secretary, and two suggested sites - one on the North-West of Mt.Ainslie, and one on the South-East portion of the city - were considered.

It was decided to select and develop site "A", on the South-East side of the city, and to reserve site "B" for the present, planting a suitable screen.

(Copy forwarded to the Deputy Chairman, Development Committee, 18.5.1928)

Rec. 18/5
Registered file

Appendix K – NAA – Canberra Cemetery site file – 15 May 1928



MEMORANDUM for

Acting Chief Engineer.

The Deputy Chairman of the Development Committee has in his memorandum dated the 10th of May made a recommendation with regard to Cemetery sites on the North and the South of the City, sites "B" and "A" respectively. The Commission's decision in this matter is as follows :-

(1) The two areas to be tentatively reserved as Cemetery sites.

(2) Site "A" to be brought into use first.

(3) Site "B" to be held to meet future requirements, and for a final review at some later date.

Will you please let me have urgently the following :-

(a) A scheme for a layout for a Cemetery on Site "A".

(b) An estimate of the cost of the first section of the Cemetary sufficient to bring it into use for all likely denominations, the design being such as will enable these requirements to be met from the commencement.

(c) An estimate of the cost of this first section of the work.

(d) A proposal for a road of access, with estimates.

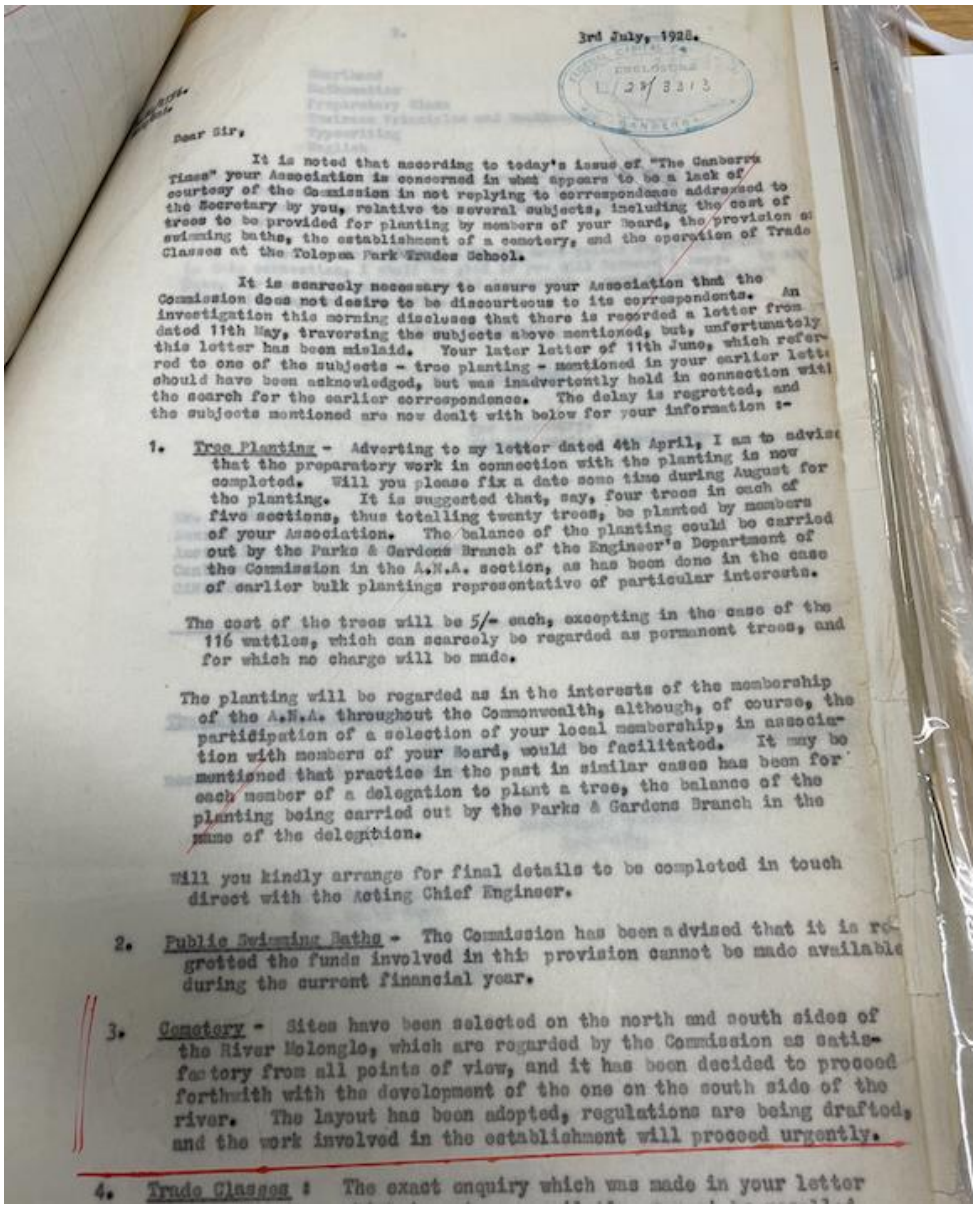
(e) An estimate of the cost of planting work to be done this season.

With regard to Site "B", will you please let me have a scheme and estimate for a plantation to screen the Cemetery from the normal City development on the Northwest and Southwest flanks, both above and below the stormwater drain.

(Sgd) J. H. BUTTERS

Chief Commissioner.
15th May, 1928.

Appendix L – NAA – Canberra Cemetery site file – 3 July 1928



3rd July, 1928.

Dear Sir,

It is noted that according to today's issue of "The Canberra Times" your Association is concerned in what appears to be a lack of courtesy of the Commission in not replying to correspondence addressed to the Secretary by you, relative to several subjects, including the cost of trees to be provided for planting by members of your Board, the provision of swimming baths, the establishment of a cemetery, and the operation of Trade Classes at the Telopea Park Trades School.

It is scarcely necessary to assure your Association that the Commission does not desire to be discourteous to its correspondents. An investigation this morning discloses that there is recorded a letter from dated 11th May, traversing the subjects above mentioned, but, unfortunately this letter has been mislaid. Your later letter of 11th June, which referred to one of the subjects - tree planting - mentioned in your earlier letter should have been acknowledged, but was inadvertently held in connection with the search for the earlier correspondence. The delay is regretted, and the subjects mentioned are now dealt with below for your information :-

1. Tree Planting - Adverting to my letter dated 4th April, I am to advise that the preparatory work in connection with the planting is now completed. Will you please fix a date some time during August for the planting. It is suggested that, say, four trees in each of five sections, thus totalling twenty trees, be planted by members of your Association. The balance of the planting could be carried out by the Parks & Gardens Branch of the Engineer's Department of the Commission in the A.N.A. section, as has been done in the case of earlier bulk plantings representative of particular interests.

The cost of the trees will be 5/- each, excepting in the case of the 116 wattles, which can scarcely be regarded as permanent trees, and for which no charge will be made.

The planting will be regarded as in the interests of the membership of the A.N.A. throughout the Commonwealth, although, of course, the participation of a selection of your local membership, in association with members of your Board, would be facilitated. It may be mentioned that practice in the past in similar cases has been for each member of a delegation to plant a tree, the balance of the planting being carried out by the Parks & Gardens Branch in the name of the delegation.

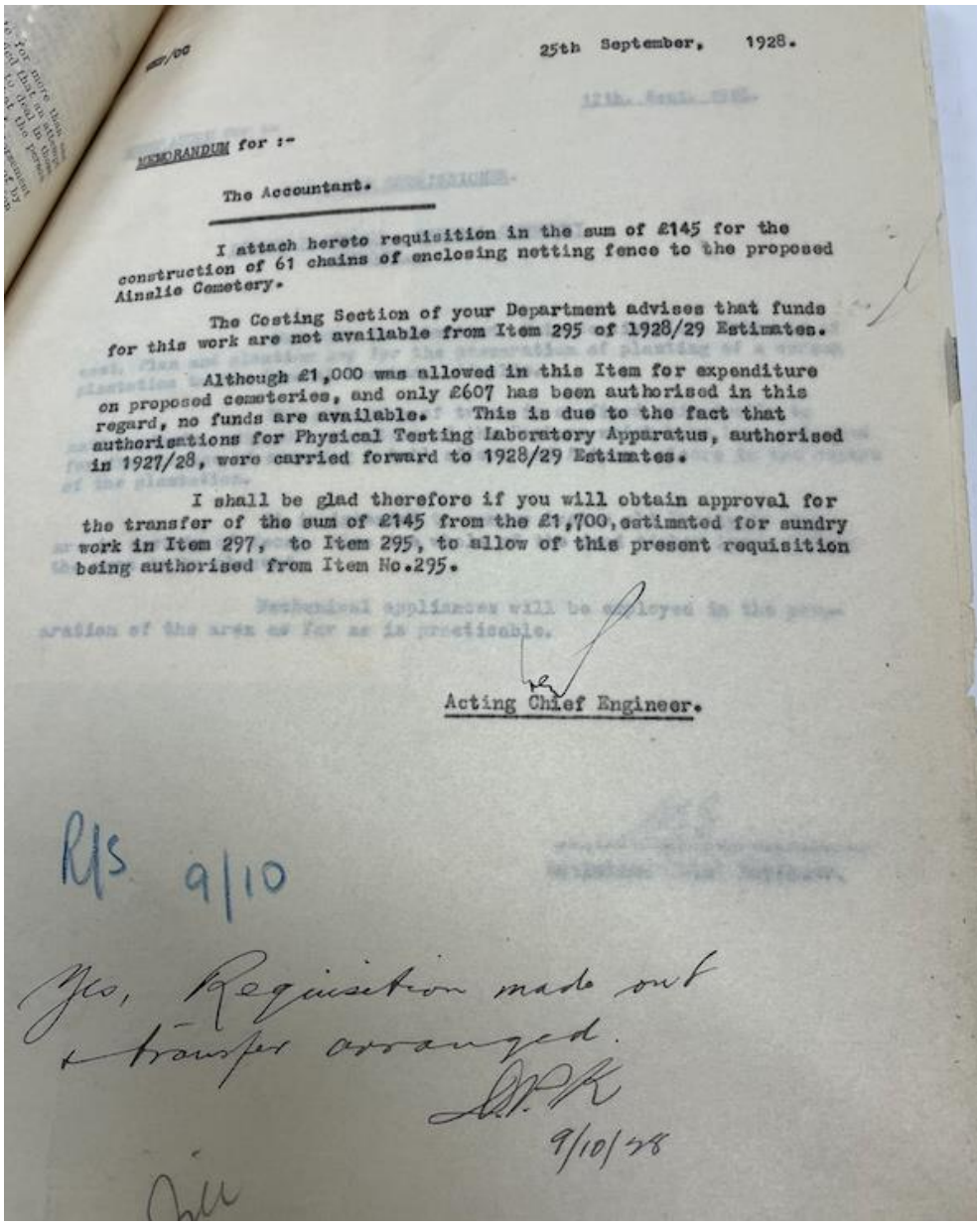
Will you kindly arrange for final details to be completed in touch direct with the Acting Chief Engineer.

2. Public Swimming Baths - The Commission has been advised that it is regretted the funds involved in this provision cannot be made available during the current financial year.

3. Cemetery - Sites have been selected on the north and south sides of the River Molonglo, which are regarded by the Commission as satisfactory from all points of view, and it has been decided to proceed forthwith with the development of the one on the south side of the river. The layout has been adopted, regulations are being drafted, and the work involved in the establishment will proceed urgently.

4. Trade Classes : The exact enquiry which was made in your letter

Appendix M – NAA – Canberra Cemetery site file – 25 September 1928



25th September, 1928.

MEMORANDUM for :-

The Accountant.

I attach hereto requisition in the sum of £145 for the construction of 61 chains of enclosing netting fence to the proposed Ainslie Cemetery.

The Costing Section of your Department advises that funds for this work are not available from Item 295 of 1928/29 Estimates.

Although £1,000 was allowed in this Item for expenditure on proposed cemeteries, and only £607 has been authorised in this regard, no funds are available. This is due to the fact that authorisations for Physical Testing Laboratory Apparatus, authorised in 1927/28, were carried forward to 1928/29 Estimates.

I shall be glad therefore if you will obtain approval for the transfer of the sum of £145 from the £1,700, estimated for sundry work in Item 297, to Item 295, to allow of this present requisition being authorised from Item No.295.

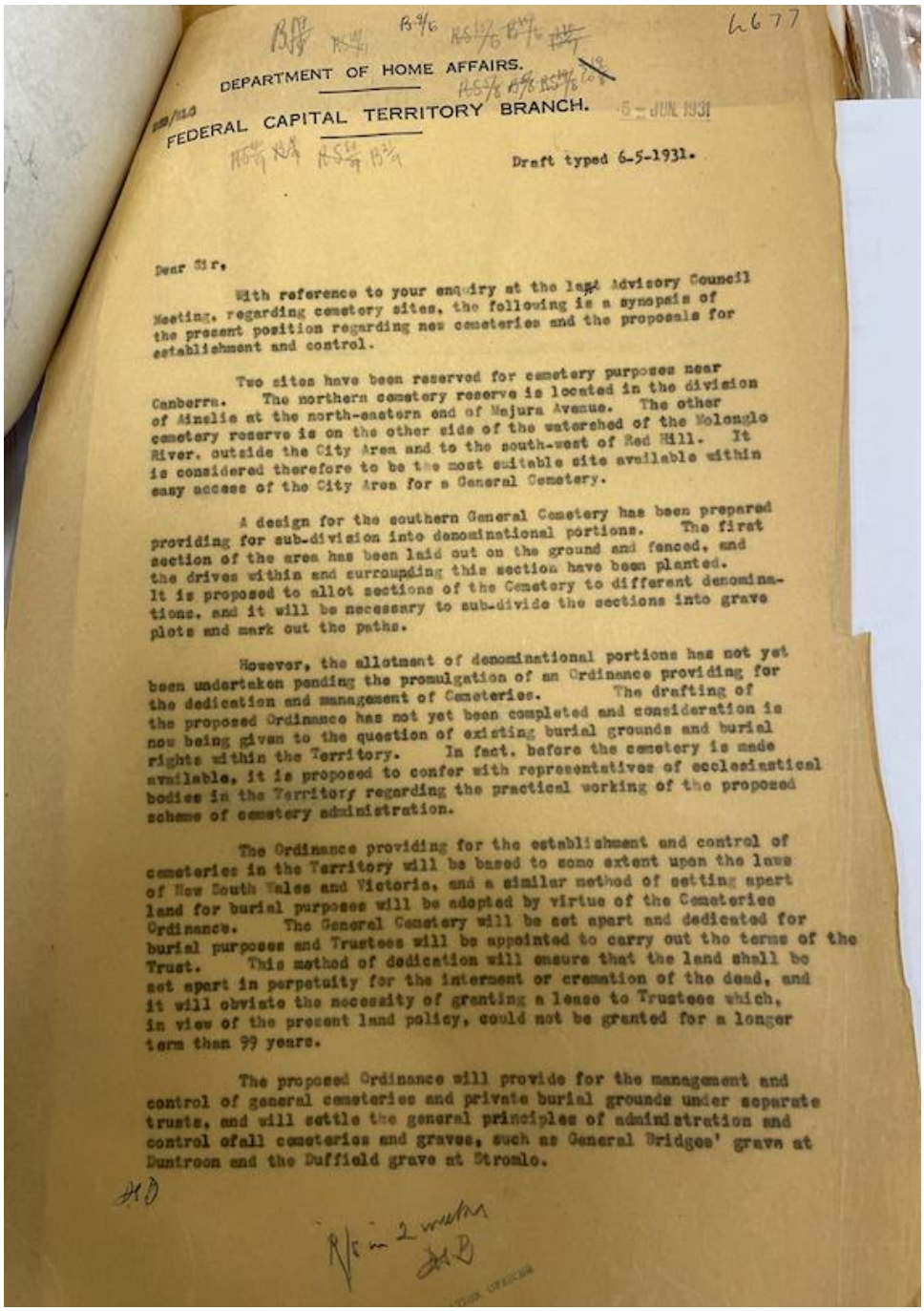
Acting Chief Engineer.

RJS 9/10

Yes, Requisition made out + transfer arranged.

9/10/28

Appendix N – NAA – Canberra Cemetery site file – 6 May 1931



DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.

FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY BRANCH.

6 JUN 1931

Draft typed 6-5-1931.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry at the last Advisory Council Meeting, regarding cemetery sites, the following is a synopsis of the present position regarding new cemeteries and the proposals for establishment and control.

Two sites have been reserved for cemetery purposes near Canberra. The northern cemetery reserve is located in the division of Ainslie at the north-eastern end of Majura Avenue. The other cemetery reserve is on the other side of the watershed of the Molonglo River, outside the City Area and to the south-west of Red Hill. It is considered therefore to be the most suitable site available within easy access of the City Area for a General Cemetery.

A design for the southern General Cemetery has been prepared providing for sub-division into denominational portions. The first section of the area has been laid out on the ground and fenced, and the drives within and surrounding this section have been planted. It is proposed to allot sections of the Cemetery to different denominations, and it will be necessary to sub-divide the sections into grave plots and mark out the paths.

However, the allotment of denominational portions has not yet been undertaken pending the promulgation of an Ordinance providing for the dedication and management of Cemeteries. The drafting of the proposed Ordinance has not yet been completed and consideration is now being given to the question of existing burial grounds and burial rights within the Territory. In fact, before the cemetery is made available, it is proposed to confer with representatives of ecclesiastical bodies in the Territory regarding the practical working of the proposed scheme of cemetery administration.

The Ordinance providing for the establishment and control of cemeteries in the Territory will be based to some extent upon the laws of New South Wales and Victoria, and a similar method of setting apart land for burial purposes will be adopted by virtue of the Cemeteries Ordinance. The General Cemetery will be set apart and dedicated for burial purposes and Trustees will be appointed to carry out the terms of the Trust. This method of dedication will ensure that the land shall be set apart in perpetuity for the interment or cremation of the dead, and it will obviate the necessity of granting a lease to Trustees which, in view of the present land policy, could not be granted for a longer term than 99 years.

The proposed Ordinance will provide for the management and control of general cemeteries and private burial grounds under separate trusts, and will settle the general principles of administration and control ofall cemeteries and graves, such as General Bridges' grave at Duntroon and the Duffield grave at Stromlo.

H.D

R/e in 2 weeks

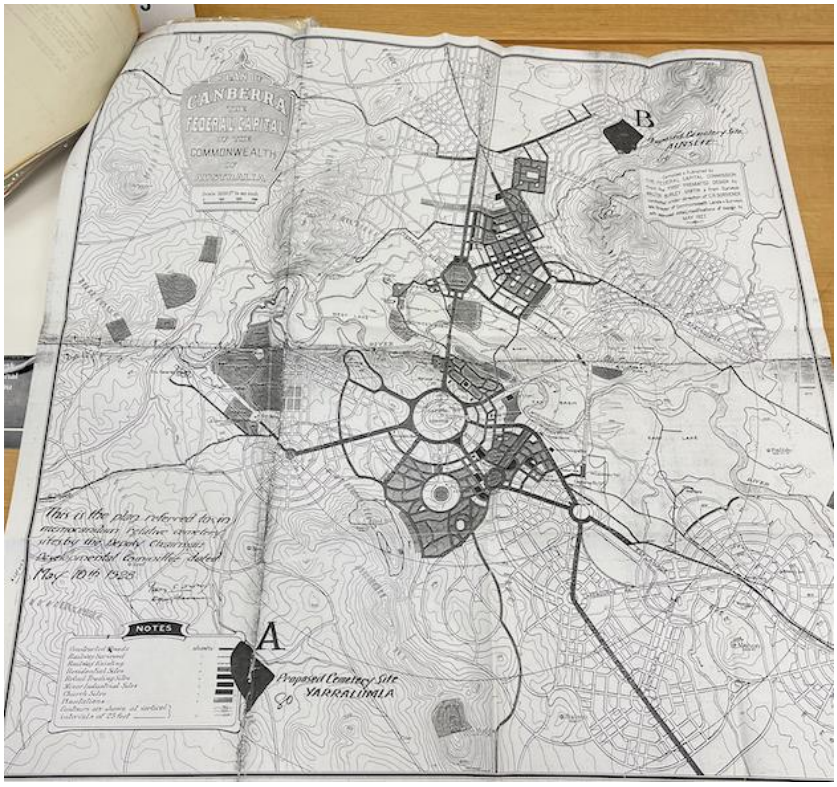
H.D

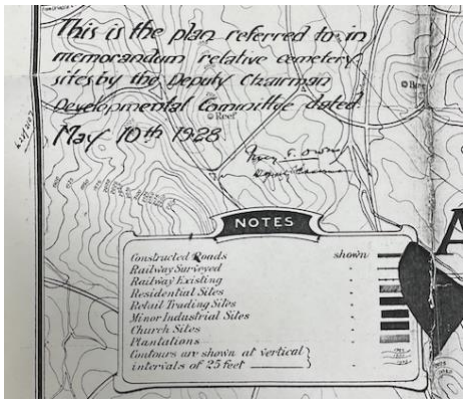
Copies of early maps of the ACT

These maps were accessed on-line through National Library of Australia Trove, and in records held by ACT Archives and National Archives of Australia. Links to the original maps are provided to enable ready access should readers wish to see more detail. A description of each NLA map has been copied from Trove.

Comments are provided to assist the reader – they are not comments from Trove.

Appendix O – NAA – Canberra Cemetery site file – Plan showing cemeteries – 10 May 1928
Proposed northside cemetery site in top right hand corner. The south side cemetery is marked as Proposed Cemetery Site Yarralumla (later referred to as the Woden cemetery).

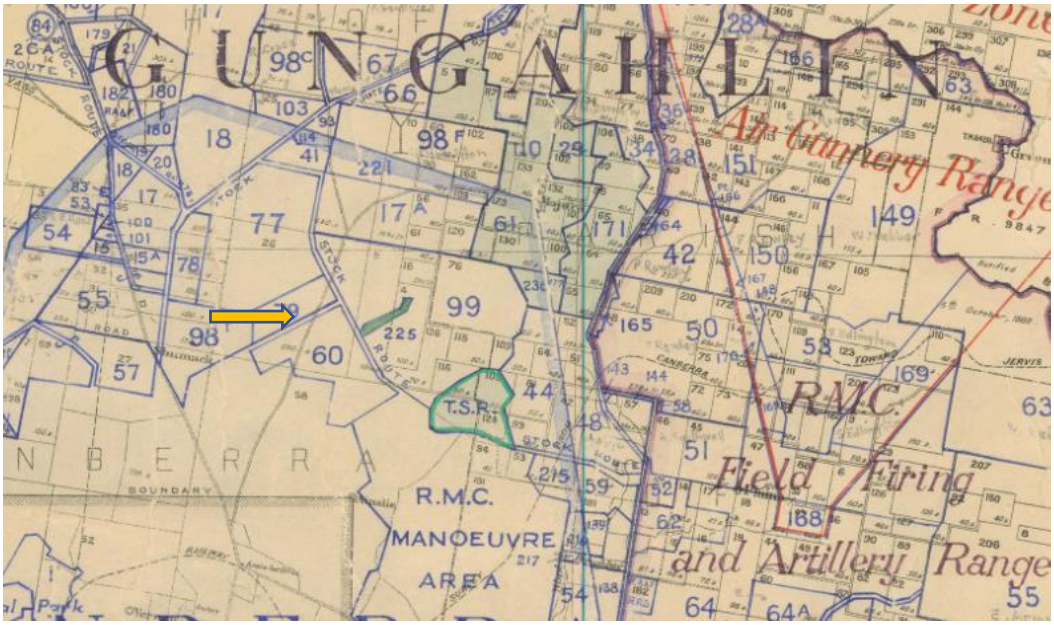




Appendix P - 1915 base map of Gungahlin District with amendments made c1940.

These amendments appear to include the tree plantation on the eastern side of the Hackett oval (green shading near yellow arrow – arrow has been added to assist the reader).
Note – this map was provided in the original submission to the ACT Tree Register and has been included in this document to assist put other maps in context.

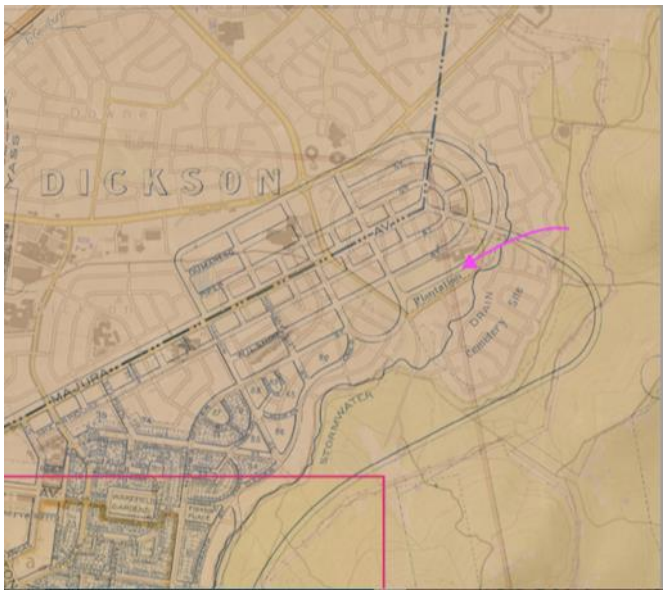
ACT Archives. ***https://www.archives.act.gov.au/featured/tenancy_registers/gungahlin***



Appendix Q – 1929 Plan of Canberra showing north cemetery site and plantation

https://mapsearch.nla.gov.au/?type=map&text=id:4657014-234026981-map
Plan of Canberra
Map type Topographic
Scale 1:9600
Note Blueline cadastral wall map of Canberra, including section and lot numbers. Proposed suburbs, roads and lake also shown. Relief shown by spot heights. "AVG" monogram, "1929", and "revised to 12.11.[29?]" in bottom right margin. 1942 date based on date pencilled on title and on verso.
Geolocated by Graham Peters at 2020/08/21 07:33:43

Comment
The bottom image includes an overlay of the current street map over the early map, courtesy of Tony Maple. The pink arrows indicated current trees at the Hackett oval and reference to cemetery site.



Appendix R – 1929 map of Canberra showing cemetery reserve

https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-366141390/view

Creator

Australia. Federal Capital Commission

Title

Feature map of the Federal Capital Territory of the Commonwealth of Australia and environs / Commonwealth of Australia, Federal Capital Commission ; compiled & drawn under the supervision of L. Edwards, chief draftsman

Call Number

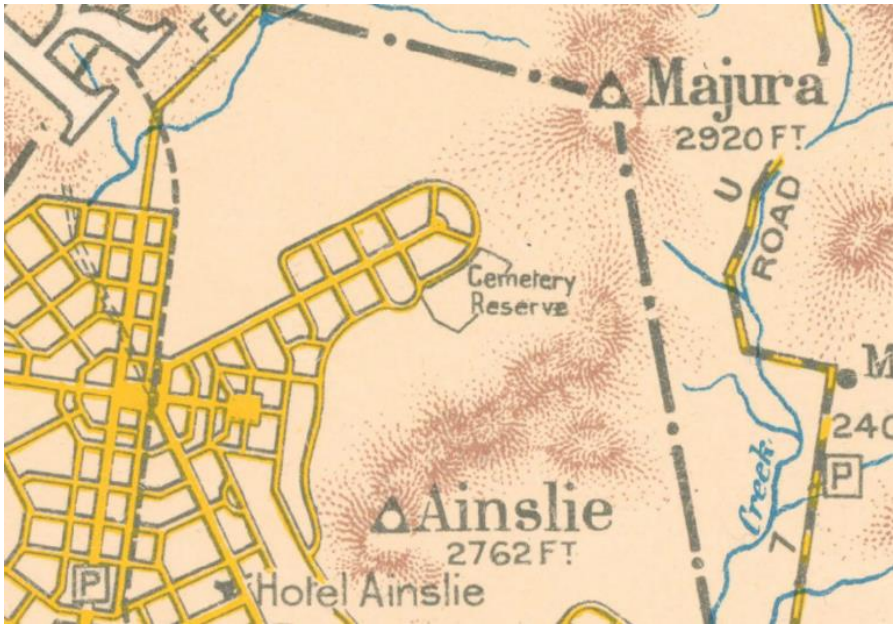
MAP G8980 1929 (Copy 1)

Created/Published

Melbourne : H.J. Green, Govt. Printer, [1929]

Comments

– includes a Cemetery reserve" to the south-west of Mt Majura, near the end of the proposed streets in north Ainslie



Appendix S - 1950 revised version of 1929 map of Canberra showing cemetery reserve

https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-365169728/view

Creator

Australia. Federal Capital Commission

Title

Feature map of the Federal Capital Territory of the Commonwealth of Australia and environs / compiled and drawn under the supervision of L. Edwards, Chief Draftsman, Survey Branch, Engineers Department, F.C.C., Canberra 1929, revised 1950

Call Number

MAP G8980 1950 (Copy 1)

Created/Published

Canberra : Commonwealth Government Printer, 1946 [i.e. 1950]

Extent

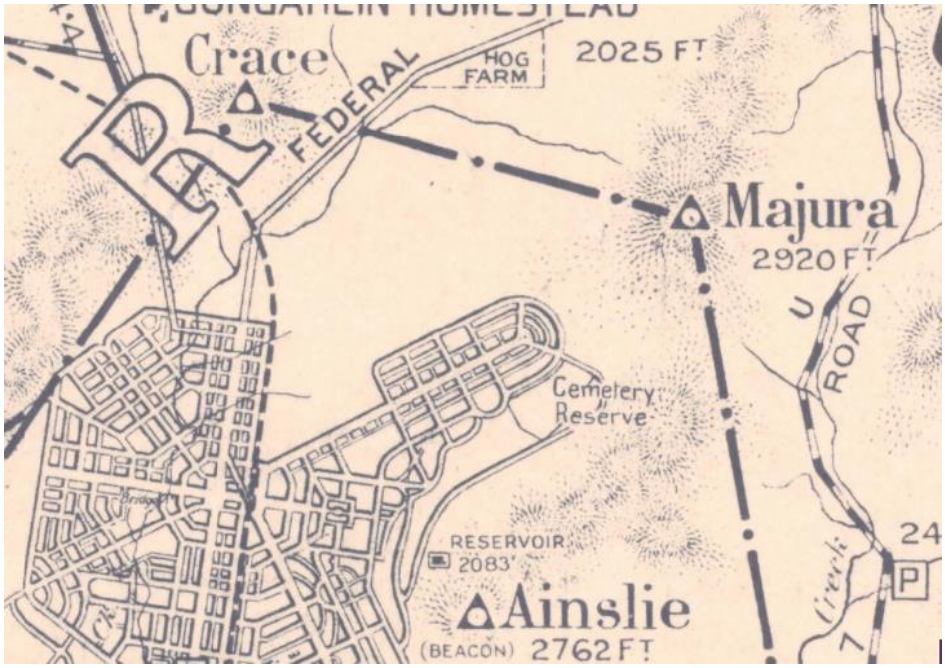
1 map : col. ; 126 x 92 cm.

Edition

Rev. 1950

Comment

Shows similar road and street layout of same map produced in 1929 and the inclusion of 'cemetery reserve.'



Appendix T - Plan of Canberra - Charles Daley Collection 1952

https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-2428711653/view

Title
Plan of Canberra
Call Number
MAP Charles Daley Collection/29
Created/Published
[Canberra : S. n. , 1952?]
Extent
1 map : col., on linen ; 102 x 85 cm.
Comment
Top right corner of this map refers to cemetery site. No other maps in this Charles Daley collection showing north of this area. But is shown on map on next page.

Appendix U - Other maps accessed

The following maps were accessed but they make no reference to the proposed cemetery or the plantation.

T.C.G. Weston Map Collection 1913-1928
https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-231842324/view

Federal Capital lands : available for soldier [settlement]
https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-232879898/view

Reserves and dedicated land for public schools, cemeteries, churches and recreation areas
https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-364956089/view

Canberra plan of city and environs, Appendix D / [showing plantations, reserves, made roads, water supply sewerage and residential blocks]
https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-230041169/view

Canberra, New South Wales and A.C.T. / prepared by Australian Section Imperial General Staff 1941
https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-324252327/view